

The Typhoid Tragedy

A History of Keplers in America

second edition

Jack R. Meredith

THE TYPHOID TRAGEDY

2nd edition

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A HISTORY OF KEPLERS IN AMERICA
SECOND EDITION

Jack R. Meredith, Ph.D.

SHASTA PUBLICATIONS
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CINCINNATI, OH 45238

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To George and Catharine



The Four Kepler Brothers (from left: Alfred, Solomon, William, Adam)

WEBSTER CITY, IOWA AUGUST, 1884

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SHASTA PUBLICATIONS

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Preface to the Second Edition

August 12, 1884
Summit County, Ohio

Dear Cousin:

Forget me not, forget me never,
For yonder sun, is set forever.

Mary C. Snyder

(Reproduced from Rosa Kepler Johnson's autograph book, circa 1881.)

* * * * *

It has been four years since the first edition of this book. In that time many, many thoughtful relatives have gone to considerable effort to send me copies of old photos, corrections to the names and dates listed on the charts, stories of life in the old days, corrections to the events described in the first edition of the book, and other similar information. This has been a most gratifying response and I personally have received much fulfillment from the book: hearing relatives exclaim with joy about seeing photos of old uncle so-and-so, seeing their own family chronicled in the pages of the book, or reading about the exploits of an ancestor who was only a faint legend to the family. To all of you who have contributed to the pages of this book may I say thank you-- thank you ever so much. We all say thank you.

But much of the pleasure of this task has been mine as well. To "discover" a relative who can fill in a whole chunk of the family tree is a thrill. And to see, for the first time, photos of those people who were only names on pages, and copies of their letters, brings them truly back to life for me. I only wish I had been able to obtain pictures of at least all the relatives down to the great-grandchildren of George and Catharine. Many photos were obtained since the first edition, but many are also still missing. For example, we have pictures of all of George and Catharine's children as adults (except the baby George who died as an infant). And we have family pictures of Susannah's family, Adam's, Solomon's, and Alfred's. We now also have individual pictures of Mary and her family, and William and most of his family. And we have photos of some of the families of the children of Adam and Solomon, though not the others. We think we may even have a picture of the Marsh's-- the parents of Catharine who raised Susannah and William (see end of Chapter 4).

Identification Scheme

I have instituted a numbering scheme in this edition to better identify families, especially from the Directory in the back of the book. It starts with George and Catharine's children. Susannah is number 1, Adam is number 2, and so on. Then Susannah's oldest child is 1.1, second oldest is 1.2, and so forth. Susannah's oldest child's oldest child (Mary Cadelia) would be

1.1.1, and this pattern continues identifying generations. It became necessary to institute such a scheme when we had three Robert Snyders and four William Keplers. This way we don't have to use "son of, daughter of, daughter of" to identify which person we are referring to.

It might be noted, in passing, that the spelling of names was rather haphazard a hundred or more years ago. For example, in the estate documents of George and Catharine, their last name is spelled "Keppler". Similarly, Susannah Snyder's last name is spelled "Schneider" on the gravestones. And her sister Mary Sour's married name is sometimes "Sours" and sometimes "Souers" (it was actually "Sour"). Further adding to the confusion are two tendencies of families in those days: first, to name a newborn after a favorite uncle, deceased sibling, or other relative, (thus adding much confusion to figuring out who was whom, and what their name really was). And second, to change given names at will (e.g., Mae to May). In essence, people were quite lax about the spelling of their names, especially if it had to be translated from one language into another.

Sources

The following sources, in order of their assumed reliability, were used throughout the book.

- * Pennsylvania archives
- * Beverly Coss of Ohio
- * Ohio gravestones (East Liberty, Manchester, and Kyser cemeteries, in particular)
- * History of Northeast Indiana, Vol II, The Lunis Publishing Co., 1920.
- * Doyle: Centennial History of Summit County, Ohio, and Representative Citizens, 1908.
- * Lane: Fifty Years and Over of Akron and Summit County, 1892.
- * Perrin: History of Summit County with an Outline Sketch of Ohio, Chicago: Baskin and Battey, 1881.
- * Personal reports by individuals

Photographic History

Another technical point concerns the type of photographs that are often found and the dates they represent. Frequently, we see photos that have no identification and knowing the year of the photo can help immensely in identifying the people in the picture. The daguerreotype started the picture taking process and was invented in 1839. However, it wasn't popularly available to common folk until the late 1840s or so and continued in use until about 1860. Only one picture could be taken at a time and it was printed on a copper (or glass) plate, usually with a very plain background. However, pictures of people were made before 1839 by dioramas, camera obscuras, and hand painting, of course.

In the 1850's another process was available that gave multiple copies on paper, called a calotype. The main problem with the picture was its graininess of tone; it simply did not hold the detail like the

daguerreotype.

In the late 1850's tintypes became popular (also known as ferrotypes). These were photographic negatives on a black background so the result looked like a positive. The tin is built up in layers, as can be told from the back of the photograph. Early tintypes were placed in cases with narrow gilt frames and commonly included complex backgrounds, either natural or studio constructed. In the 1860's, paper envelopes were used as a cheap replacement for the cases with a cutout for the picture to show through. By the mid-1860's photos of larger size (e.g., 4" x 6") were possible and family shots became popular, particularly with studio backgrounds. The wet-plate process started in the 1870's but tintypes remained around until the turn of the century because of their ease of use and cheapness. (Thus, just because a photo is a tintype doesn't mean it is older than the paper photos.)

Access to photos for common families typically ran later than the dates above. For example, even though available in the mid-1860's, it wasn't until the middle 1880's that it was the vogue to have one's family picture taken by the local photographer, complete with false (studio) background props, one person resting their hand on a family member's shoulder or arm, and so on. Thus, it can be difficult to date a photo closely.

Another factor that can be helpful is the quality of the photo, earlier pictures typically lacking the quality of later ones. However, this can be misleading as well. The picture of William with his first wife Hattie (Figure 4.94) has excellent quality in terms of detail and contrast, yet was taken about 1864. Of course, a professional photographer took this picture of the newlyweds, thus explaining its quality (and its cost too, undoubtedly).

Other Contributors

I have been helped immensely in this edition and I would like to identify some of those who should get credit, and tell of some of the "treasure finds" that occurred in the process (one of the most enjoyable parts of this genealogy hobby).

As always, Erma Jane Weaver (2.4.5.4) has kept the work going, writing relatives for names and dates and places-- sometimes even getting nasty letters back but most often no response at all, or perhaps a returned letter: "deceased" or "moved-- no forwarding address". Her patience and stamina throughout this ordeal has been an inspiration to me. Most of what you read in this book is in fact her information. Errors however have tended to be mine, usually in misinterpreting what she has told me, or trying to reconcile conflicting data.

An early respondent to the first edition of this book was Bess Walterick (2.4.5), who corrected my misinterpretations of where Adam's descendents were born and with whom various elders were living. She also spent considerable trouble locating Adam's family picture for us and we thank her immensely. She was one of those exciting "finds" for me since I had studied her pictures (Figures 4.23 and 4.24) for hours, and then when I found out she was still living I felt as though I had been granted a special wish to reach back through time to talk with her. Her first comment was that she didn't look the same as in those pictures anymore. I knew that, of course, but I found

it hard in my mind's eye to figure out which Bessie Flo I was talking to. Regardless, she was delightful, and a lot scrappier than I had expected--perhaps living through those times forces one to speak up for oneself.

My granite rock of authority on all this information has been Bev Coss, a descendent of Andrew Kepler's line. She's been knowledgable, helpful, authoritative, and a true blessing. She also has contributed mightily to the material in the book. The entire first chapter is largely due to her efforts in the courthouses, taking handwritten notes when the copying machines weren't working, and other pains far beyond the call of duty.

Both she and her father, Monty Kepler, contributed greatly to Chapter 2, an effort I avoided in the first edition due to its complexity and staggering potential for work. Though the novice may not realize it, following a geneological line through history in either direction quickly becomes an overwhelming endeavor because the line increases exponentially--every person has two ancestors, each of which has two ancestors, etc. And going forward is often even worse because up until very recently, families often had children until the wife either wore out or died. Thus, a family of nine or twelve was quite common not so long ago. The only saving grace about going forward through time is that it stops (at least for me) when one reaches the present, which is why the first edition primarily went forward in time, starting with George and Catharine.

Another early contact was Russell Kepler (6.5.2), as described in William's section at the end of Chapter 4. As he and his enthusiastic wife Betty went looking for William's diary described in the chapter, they unexpectedly discovered an old trunk of William's belongings! It was fantastic!! It included scrapbooks of old pictures (which is where Mary and Henry Sour and daughter Clara's pictures came from, plus a wealth of others), stories, books, William's rock collection (of somewhat less interest to us), and other such treasures. At our earliest opportunity I took our family north to visit these newfound relatives in the northern part of our state and to muddle over the unidentified pictures with Russ, Betty, and their extended family. We wound up visiting the Manchester cemetery, the Kyser cemetery, and the East Liberty cemetery, saw the old farmland of John and Andrew, saw the farmhouse of Susannah and George (built on the foundation of George and Catharine's log cabin), met Bev Coss and Monty Kepler from Andrew's side of the family, met Leonard Snyder from Susannah's side of the family, and finished it all off with a pig roast! What a trip!! But the photographs--such a find! We couldn't afford to reproduce them all but the more intriguing ones are included here in Chapter 4.

Leonard Snyder (1.2.1.1) mentioned above, Marilyn Strausbaugh (3.4.3.1), Glen Kepler (5.2.5.1) and Vernon Kepler (5.6.1.1) have all taken the book to heart and dug through their (and probably relatives') materials to find photographs and information on their lines. The picture of Susannah's family was supplied by Leonard, the pictures of the Gee family by Marilyn, the additional data on Alfred's son Isaac George's family by Glen, and the picture and information of Leo Leonard's (5.6.1) family by Vernon.

Another big contributor, not only to her own line but that of all of Alfred's lines, has been Beryl Moffit (5.8.1). She has spread the task among her acquaintances, kin, kith, and anyone else she could talk into

contributing; I very, very much want to thank her for her work and efforts in this regard. Erma and I focussed largely on Adam's family in Iowa because we had more contacts there but very few contacts on Alfred's line so we needed someone like Beryl to help. Again, thank you.

And to all those who have contributed in so many ways, I would like to say thanks once again. No book like this can be just one person's doing-- the task is simply too great. You have made it the book it is, for us, for our descendents, and for those people in these pages who, through the years, keep saying: "Dear Rosa--Forget me not, forget me never."

J.R.M.

Cincinnati, Ohio
December 2, 1985

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

Webster City, IA
April 20, 1884

Dear Friend

Tis sweet to be remembered
Tis sad to be forgot
Then let me to you whisper
Dear friend, forget me not.

Your friend, Edna C. Albright

(Reprinted by permission from Rosa Kepler Johnson's autograph book, circa 1881)

* * * * *

This book began one day in 1966 when my wife Carol and I were visiting my parents in Escondido, California. As expected, Mom got out the old family album to show her new daughter-in-law the family pictures. While they were engrossed in the album I thumbed through Dad's copy of his mother's funeral booklet, kept in the same drawer as the album. I was intrigued by the entry of the names of his grandfather Solomom Kepler's parents, George Kepler and Catharine Marsh, since I had understood that his grandfather, like his grandmother Philena Dennison, was an orphan.

Checking the birth and death dates of these long-ago ancestors, I discovered that George died at the surprisingly young age of 33, and Catherine at the age of 29. Upon closer inspection I noticed that they died within three months of each other! A later page in the booklet noted "(Typhoid Fever)" following their burial location. "So that was it," I thought to myself. I borrowed the booklet from Dad, xeroxed it for my files, and mailed the original back, filing the copy in my "Important Papers" folder.

My next inspection of the copy of the booklet wasn't until ten years later, following the "Roots" series on TV. As I skimmed through the copy of the little booklet again, I checked for relatives attending the funeral. A name I had heard of before caught my eye, Pearl Pump. Checking the name with my dad in a letter the following week, he replied that she was still alive and he even corresponded with her on occasion. He included her address. I was surprised she still lived in Grant, Nebraska, where my dad had grown up and his mother had died. Perhaps Pearl Pump had talked with dad's mother in the last years before she died and had heard stories about earlier relatives which dad was unaware of. I wrote her.

As luck would have it, in my enthusiasm over a possible source of information I wrote a letter full of only questions, neglecting to mention who I was, in the process. Not surprisingly, Pearl was puzzled by the strange letter in her mailbox with so many questions about an aunt who died 30 years previously. Fortunately, I did remember to sign the letter and this clue led Pearl to surmise that I perhaps was a prodigal son of her cousin J. H. Meredith. Not knowing my intentions in the torrid flow of questions, she wrote back a kindly letter pointing out the frugality of her aunt's conversation, as well as the poverty of her circumstances (should I perhaps be an heir seeking a previously-lost fortune).

Undaunted by Aunt Pearl's kindness, I fired off another missive, this time explaining a bit more carefully who I was and why I was interested. Her reply this second time was much like the first except for the mention of "a picture of Aunt Mary as a young girl and her family." WOW! I desperately wanted a copy. Going to great lengths of time, trouble, and expense, Pearl did make and send me a copy, enclosed with a short letter.

The picture was fascinating. There was my grandmother at the age of about twenty-one with all her sisters, brothers, and mother and father. There was "Uncle Jakie"

as a boy, who, forty years later, brought my dad a bag of lemon drop candy. And little Susan with a ball in her hand, who died later as a young woman. And the stern-looking mother Philena, of English descent. And Solomon, the father, whose parents died of typhoid. He looked surprisingly kind. And handsome. And the clothes they wore--the heavy black dresses. The photographer's studio props. The way they were posed: a hand on a shoulder, no smiles. As I looked into the depths of the picture I felt myself transforming into a photographer in 1885, taking a picture, with flash powder and black box accordian camera, of a local farmer and his family. FLASH! "There you have it. You can breathe now. Leave the ball on this table little girl. I should have the picture ready in two days, Mr. Kepler. You'll be pleased I'm sure. Watch the tripod, son. Thank you folks. Good day."

I examined the picture for an hour before picking up the letter. Pearl apologized for the delay, stating the picture's insignificant cost (I had by then already received in value ten times its cost) for which I was to reimburse her. She also noted that she had some sisters living in Florida who might be able to add more information. I soon fired off letters to them, again receiving kindly pictures of Jacob as a young man, more pictures, names of more relatives, and so on. In this fashion I was put in touch with Lillian Wolff who put me in touch with Juanita Edvenson, whom the family hadn't heard from in years, George Snyder (same), and Erma Jane Weaver, an energetic and delightful woman who was also "into" this genealogy thing. Erma proceeded to take the task under her wing, sending off dozens of letters, making contacts, and establishing family descen-dents, primarily along Adam Kepler's line, right down to little Jessica, Nathan, and Tracy Lynn.

Meanwhile, I attacked other lines, trying to reestablish contacts lost decades ago.

A case in point was my search for "Uncle Jakie" (Jacob William, son of Solomon). The last anyone knew (he didn't keep up ties), he was a sheepherder in Lemmon, South Dakota, in 1948. If he was still alive he would be 103! On a chance, I wrote to the postmaster of Lemmon, inquiring if anyone knew of this person, a sheepherder in that area 30 years previously. (Who knows, some postmasters are old and remember people from years ago.) He didn't, as it happened, know anything about my Mr. Kepler but suggested I write the postmaster of Thunderhawk, South Dakota. I did this. He in turn referred me to a retired rancher in the area. And this rancher did know Jacob, though Jacob had died in 1962. However, he had the address of two of his sons with whom he still kept in touch. I am thus now in contact with Jacob's line of the family, a contact lost 30 years before.

Sadly, in many other cases, the people I was trying to reach had often died only a year or two previously. On other occasions, someone would have a wealth of information. Frequently, stories contradicted each other. Slowly, bit by bit, the archaeology revealed a fascinating family heritage, with offshoots, and intermarriages, and sisters of one family marrying brothers of another (not uncommon back then). But there were also heart-breaks; four years between children always meant the death of an infant. Multiple mothers were common--if a wife died in childbirth a replacement had to be found quickly. Quite often, children were raised by an older sister--or parceled out to neighbors. Life was harsh.

It is the purpose of this book to rekindle the memories of these people and the life they lived. They are our people, and it is our heritage that will be lost if their lives are not chronicled now. Every month another relative passes on, taking the invaluable stories and the names of those people in the photographs with them. Then the photos and the stories are both lost to us. But more importantly, that history is lost to our children, and their children. American children today are being raised in a modern technical society whose only concerns are the present and the future. They don't know who they are or what their place in life is supposed to be. Children of other cultures have a sense of destiny, of purpose. They are drilled in it and imbued with it, whether they be Jewish or Bantu.

Perhaps this book can serve, in the second and following editions, as a collection center for copies of pictures of our ancestors, and stories about their lives. Corrections to this current edition would especially be of interest because contradictions in

dates, and even stories, were quite common. (Send them to the publisher at the address shown on the copyright page in the front of the book.) Throughout the book sources and comments on material are referenced. These notes are contained in the Notes Appendix in the back of the book. As much as possible, an attempt was made to verify and substantiate the information presented here, but there are still many errors.

Many relatives are also missing. Those for which addresses are available are listed alphabetically in the Directory appendix to this book. But only recently was information received concerning Susannah Kepler Synder's and Alfred Kepler's lines. And Mary Magdalena Kepler Sours' line never was established nor even a picture found of her. One picture that was rumored to exist, but unfortunately could never be obtained, was of George and Catherine. If anyone has such a picture, we would all love to see it. I am grateful to the many, many kind people who supplied us with information, stories, and pictures to aid in this endeavor. I thank you deeply. And I know that all our children, as well as all those rugged ancestors who, more than anything else, wished to be remembered also thank you deeply.

This book is dedicated to our gallant pioneer ancestors. To the lost infants. To the little graves in the backyards. To Adam plowing his fields, to Solomon driving his covered wagon from Indiana to Iowa, to William lying on the bank of the James River on July 3, 1862 with a Confederate wound in his left shoulder, to Libby and Lizzie with their red-ribboned turkeys. But mainly, this book is dedicated to George and Catherine who contracted typhoid fever in the spring of 1844 and within four months orphaned their children, our ancestral grandparents.

J.R.M.

Cincinnati, Ohio
March, 1981

Chapter One

TYPHOID!

Stanhope, IA
June 28th 1892

Dear Friend Rosa

When in the grave my head doth lay
Beneath the cold and silent clay
Read these few lines and think of me
That I your friend--used to be.

Lovingly,
Emily Hanson

¹It is 6 a.m., Thursday, March 21, 1844. George Kepler, a 33 year old farmer in Summit county, Ohio, has had another restless night, just one of many lately. Though he hasn't said much to his 28 year old wife Catharine, his general feelings of malaise, slight cough, now and then chill, infrequent headache, occasional loose bowels, and lack of appetite seem so unspecific that he isn't sure its anything at all.

"George, winter snows should be over in a few more weeks. Do you think we could manage a trip back to Philadelphia before spring planting begins? The children would love to see their cousins."

"Well, maybe, Catharine. I'd feel more inclined if I could shake this cold or whatever it is."

"You didn't seem to sleep much last night. Is it still bothering you so?"

Catharine, once fresh and energetic, was still somewhat shaken by the death of their newforn infant last year². Of course, the other six children, Susannah, twelve, Adam, ten, Solomon, just turned nine four days ago Sunday, Mary, seven, Alfred, four, and little William, two, were healthy and happy. But any illness in a rural area was cause for concern. She and George had moved to this spot in Coventry Township nine years previously, not long after Adam was born. George had cleared most of the land and built this log cabin and their barn himself.

By Saturday, George was slightly dizzy, though his headaches seemed better. But throughout the following week George was definitely running a low grade fever and his cough seemed worse. During the first few days of April, Monday and Tuesday, his fever rose slowly, yet his pulse remained slow. During the sponge baths Catharine gave him to keep his fever down, she noticed pink spots on his chest and abdomen which disappeared as she sponged him.

By Friday, George was running a high fever and a physician was sent for. Rather than calling Dr. Charles Zwisler, the regular physician that administered to Catharine and the children, Catharine requested Dr. Jonathan B. Buchtel of East Liberty who had been practicing there for some years. On Saturday the 6th he came and prescribed for George's fever and cough, stating that he would return the following Monday or Tuesday.

By Monday, George's fever stopped climbing, much to Catharine's relief. His cough also seemed better, though he complained of intestinal cramps and a sore throat. On Tuesday, the 9th, Dr. Buchtel returned and noted that George's condition had changed somewhat but he was not necessarily better. He returned on Wednesday to find that George's fever was climbing again. On Thursday he noticed Catharine's exhaustion trying to care for both George and the children and prescribed for her as well. But on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday George's fever had not abated and he was now having severe diarrhea. Dr. Buchtel stayed over Sunday night to help Catharine with George but advised Catharine to try Dr. William J. Chapman, a well-known physician who had arrived in the community about the same time they had, nine years previously.

engaged to nurse her in her final days. On Saturday the 27th Catharine died and her six children, who only five months before had had a happy, healthy home, were now orphans.

* * * * *

GUARDIANS DOCKETS, FEBRUARY 7, 1845, SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

Docket 1, No. 105 Mary M. Kepler and others, orphans 3-307: The court appoint Houston Sisler⁴ guardian to Mary M., Alfred, and William⁵ Kepler orphan children of George Kepler of Coventry. Bond \$1500 with Adam Marsh surety. Bond filed and certificate issued.

Docket 1, No. 106 Adam and Solomon Kepler, minors 3-307: The court appoint Jacob Kepler⁶ guardian to Adam and Solomon Kepler orphan children of George Kepler of Coventry, deceased. Bond \$1000 with John Kepler surety. Bond filed and certificate issued.

Docket 1, No. 107 Susannah Kepler, minor 3-307: Susannah Kepler makes choice of Adam Marsh for her guardian. Bond \$500 with Jacob Kepler surety. Bond filed and certificate issued.

¹The material in this chapter, though fictitious, is based on the estate materials (found and transcribed by Bev Coss of Canton, Ohio) of George and Catharine Kepler (as follows below) and the prognosis of untreated typhoid fever. Normally typhoid is only fatal 30% of the time, even if untreated so this must have been a particularly virulent strain.

²Other sources indicate the death of an infant born after William. In this rendition, I have assumed the child died soon after birth in 1843 but this may not be correct. The bill for Dr. Zwisler in the estate papers indicates a long set of visits to Catharine in March and April of 1842, ending with three visits for a child. This could have been the delivery and later death of a newborn, except that it comes too soon after William's birth in December of 1841. Or perhaps his visits for the "boy" in June and July of 1844 were for the infant who would still be nursing and couldn't be sent with the other young children. The infant might then have died on July 5th or 6th, perhaps even of typhoid, and been buried with Catharine (common if the baby was still nursing). This possibility is likely because there is a bill among the estate papers from John W. Hamm for preaching three funeral sermons for "said deceased, wife, and child". Of course, it could have also simply been an unpaid bill from 1843.

³The estate papers show a bill from Dr. Ferdinand Dol____? I have assumed this is the same person and the spelling in the papers is either illegible or incorrect.

On Monday, April 15th, Dr. Chapman arrived and diagnosed George as having typhoid fever! The younger children-- Mary, Alfred, and William-- were immediately sent to George and Catharine's nearby relatives to protect them from possible contamination. Susannah stayed to help Catharine with the household, and Adam and Solomon to tend the farm. Every day that week Dr. Chapman returned and medicated George to help control the diarrhea and fever. For a few days George didn't seem to respond; then his temperature fell rapidly. But there was also an abrupt increase in his pulse rate and he was sweating continuously. More seriously, his diarrhea, though lessened, included blood. Catharine was frantic and requested her regular physician, Dr. Zwisler, who joined Dr. Chapman on Thursday the 18th. Dr. Zwisler suggested they call in Dr. Fernando Dalwick of Canal Fulton³ to consult, which he did later the next week. Dr. Chapman returned on Friday and Saturday, and again on Monday through Friday of the following week, but George's condition continued to deteriorate. By Friday, even Susannah was feeling the strain and Dr. Chapman medicated her as well.

But later that Friday, the 26th, George experienced sudden sharp intestinal pains. He became severely nauseous and started vomiting. Catharine was at a loss for help. In desperation, she called in another physician, Dr. David S. Sampsell, who came immediately and medicated George, but his condition didn't improve. Dr. Sampsell returned again on Saturday, and again on Sunday, trying other medications, but none were of any help and in the early morning hours of Monday, April 29th, George died.

Catharine was overwhelmed with grief and exhausted from her ordeal. First her baby and now her young husband! The spring days of that May disappeared in tears for Catharine. Her nights were restless and meals were tasteless. As her apathy worsened, her appetite disappeared and she began having headaches. On May 20th, she even felt so poor that she asked Dr. Zwisler to come, which he did. On May 24, she attended the hearings for George's estate and was named administrator, along with Issac Fries, the local Justice of the Peace. On June 3, John Carl, Rudolph Rex, and John Burgner appraised the estate and then returned the goods to Catharine.

Catharine continued to feel poorly throughout June. On occasion, she would have chills, but feel better after a meal. Near the end of June, on the 27th, she called Dr. Zwisler to attend her son, who seemed rather ill. Dr. Zwisler came daily until he started feeling better on July 1. After two more visits, on the 3rd and again on the 5th, the boy seemed sufficiently recovered that Dr. Zwisler stopped coming.

But Catharine's symptoms worsened and she was running a fever. On Tuesday the 16th of July she requested Dr. Zwisler. He did not like the symptoms he observed and returned daily thereafter. But by the 19th it was clear, even to Catharine, that she, like George, had typhoid! Catharine chose not to go through the same futile string of physicians that had medicated George and decided just to stay with her own physician, Dr. Zwisler. On Saturday the 20th she engaged Eli Bartholomew, the local stonemason, to cut another marble gravestone, for herself (see Figure 1). She also made what arrangements she could for the children with her parents and her sisters. Dr. Zwisler continued to come daily to medicate Catharine and a woman, Eliza Fickes, was

⁴Houston Sisler was probably Catharine's brother-in-law since the Sisler and Marsh families intermarried extensively. He served as county treasurer from 1854 to 1858.

⁵William grew up with his sister Susannah Kepler, apparently in their grandfather Adam Marsh's household. When this change occurred, and whether the other children with Houston Sisler also moved into other families, is not known.

⁶Jacob's wife, Susannah (Marsh) was Catharine's sister. Jacob was George's brother.



FIGURE 1.1 Catharine's Gravestone in the Manchester Cemetery

* * * * *

The following material was compiled by Beverly (Kepler) Coss, a descendent of John Kepler's brother, Andrew. We are extremely indebted to her for her efforts and patience on our behalf.

2365 Zircon St., N.E.
North Canton, Ohio 44721
April 20, 1981

Mr. Jack Meredith
1062 Tahoe Terr.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45238

Dear Jack,

Earlier this month while in the Summit Co., O., courthouse, I came across Estate #141, your George Kepler's estate. It was difficult to read, but it was still enlightening and sad. I got a copy of this receipt of John W. Hamm for you because it is proof of the church George was affiliated with and it mentions that John W. Hamm preached three funeral sermons for "said Decd., wife & child." Did you know before that a child also died about the time the parents died?

One sheet in the estate listed property set off for the support of the widow & children and it was dated 3 June 1844.

Receipt #58 to Eli Bartholemew was for one set of Tomb Stones. Receipt #53 to Jacob Emerick was for making two coffins. Receipt #39 was for the support for Preaching at J.R. Garl's schoolhouse.

The receipt of Wm. () Chapman, apparently a doctor, listed his visits and medicine. One entry, April 26, was for medicine for daughter. Others dated April 15-26 were to visit "self & Mrs.".

Hope the book is coming along well.

Sincerely,

Bey

Beverly (Kepler) Coss

2365 Zircon St., N.E.
North Canton, Ohio 44721
April 29, 1981

Mr. Jack Meredith
1062 Tahoe Terr.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45238

Dear Jack,

After your phone call last weekend, I made arrangements to go to the courthouse in Akron on Tuesday. Sad to say, the same crew was there offering no bargains on the xerox copies. I did talk the one fellow into combining two sheets into one, but the copies were so rotten that I just tried to copy by hand the information I thought you would be interested in. If anyone wants "proof", he'll just have to go read it himself, I guess!

First, I'll type below information from the estate, and, then, I'll type Perrin's information about the doctors involved in George's care.

Estate #141 Doc. A Page 139.
Estate of George Kepler

Letters of Administration-George Kepler "of Coventry" died intestate; appoint "Catharine Kepler and Isaac Fries" administrators; dated 24 May 1844

Bond-"Daniel Rex and George Marsh as sureties"; \$1000.

Schedule of the goods and Chattels belonging to the estate of George Kepler late of Coventry Township Deceased to which the widow is entitled without being obliged to account for the same.

Wearing apparel of the deceased

Ditto " of the widow

one dining Table

Six Chairs; Six Knives & Forks

Six plates, Six Teacups & Saucers

twelve head of Sheep & the wool Shorn from them

one Stove and pipe

four Beds and Steads

Two Spinning Wheels

one Bible, Hymn Book & School Book

one Red Cow

Cloth on Hand

one Kettle & two Pots

Taken and returned by the Subscribers, appraisers of the goods and Chttels of said estate, this 3d day of June 1844

John R. Garl

Rudolph Rex Appraisers

John Burgner

A Schedule of property and money Set off by us the appraisers of the estate of George Kepler late of Coventry Township Deceased for the Suport of the widow and Children one year from the death of the Intestate estimated at two hundred and eighty seven dollars
to wit

70 Bushels of Wheat at 75 cts pr Bushel	52 00
1 Cow & Calf	5 50
1 Black lined Back Steer	4 00
1 Steer Calf	1 50
1 Red lined Back Steer	4 00
1 Heifer Calf	2 00
8 head of Sheep at (62) pr head	3 00
a lot of Planks	1 00
3 Hogs 1st Choise	9 00
6 Hogs 2d Choise	6 00
3 Hogs 4th Choise	1 86
1 Bureau	9 00
2 Hive of Bees	5 50
1 Kitchen Coboard	19 00
7 Baggs at 75 cts pr Bag	1 75
one (Tun) of Hay	3 00
the Grass in the meadow	10 00
1 Fanning Mill	5 00
Rye & Buckwheat (Chop)	1 50
a Lot of Boards	75
1 Matick	1 00
Money	14(9) 14
Total amount	287 00

Appraised and Set off by us the
3d day of June 1844

John Burgner
John R. Garl Appraisers
Rudolph Rex

3 Pages - List of all the chattels & goods except those widow
entitled to without accounting for same

Manchester Summit Co.
April 26 1844

Geo. Kepler deceased to Dr. D. (~~L.~~ or S.) (Samps^l)
1st Visit and medicine for self \$2.50
2d Do Do for self 2.50
3d Do Do for self 2.00
7.00

Receipt of Daniel Wilttrout including beef, repairing his Slay,
work at his barn, etc. and
"To the Coffin for G. Kepler dec. 5.50"

Receipt of John Harshberger included weaving flannel

Receipt of Henry Davis included wool hats, 1 English Reader,
1 Paper of Pins, 1 Almanack, 1 Shingle Hatchet, etc. and
was dated (Clinton) July 9, 1844.

Statement that Isaac Fries paid out a certain amount and there
was \$27.35 left "for distribution among the heirs".

4 Pages - Sales List

 List of Credits for disbursement - 2 Pages - including:

- #7 Eliza Pickes for nursing Deceased
- #31 John Grill Do D. S. Sampsell's Doctor Bill
- #48 Dr. J. B. Buchtel Doctor Bill
- #53 Jacob Emerick for Making two Coffins
- #57 Charles Zwisler on Doctor Bill
- #58 Eli Bartholemew for one sett of Tomb stones
- #59 Ferdinand (Dol___) Doctor Bill

 Sales list - 8 Pages - Includes clothes, bedding, quilts, coverlet, etc.

 Receipt of Philip Shook for shoe repair and making shoes

 Mrs. Catharine Kepler Massillon July 20 1844
 Eli Bartholomew

For one set of Marble Grave Stones
 Letterin George Kepler &c. pr agreemt.

 Receipt of Dr. Charles Zwisler - See Xerox Copy
 1842

March

20 Visit to wife
 21 visit to wife
 22 Do
 23 Do
 24 Do
 25 Do
 27 Do
 30 Do
 April 1 Do
 2 Do
 3 Do
 6 Do
 9 Do
 June 25 visit to child
 27 visit to child
 28 visit to child

1843

(Decemb.) 25 wife medicine

1844

January 6 wife medicine
 24 wife medicine
 Feb. 13 wife medicine
 March 7 Do Do
 April 18 Visit to him
 May 20 Visit to Mrs. Kepler
 June 27 Visit to boy
 28 visit to boy
 29 visit to boy
 30 visit to boy
 July 1 visit to boy
 3 visit to boy
 5 visit to boy
 16 visit to Mrs. Kepler
 17 visit to Do
 18 Do Do
 19 Do Do

20 Do	Do
21 Do	Do
22 Do	Do
23 Do	Do
24 Do	Do
25 Do	Do
26 Do	Do

 Receipt of Wm. J. Chapman - See Xerox Copy
 George Kepler

To Wm. J. Chapman
 April 15th 1844 to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 16th " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 17th " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 18th " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 19th " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 20th " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 22d " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 24th " to visit Self & Mrs.
 " 25th " to visit Self & Mrs. and () next morning
 " 26th " to visit Self & Mrs. & stay over night
 " " " to med for daughter

 Receipt of Dr. J. B. Buchtel - See Xerox Copy
 George Kepler deceased

Debtor to Dr. J. B. Buchtel
 Eight dollars and (Seventy five cents) for Medical Attendance
 for self

1844
 April 6th to Medicine for family of self
 " 9 " Visit and medicine for self
 " 10 " Visit and medicine for self
 " 11 " Visit and Medicine for self and wife
 " 12 " Visit and Medicine for self
 " 13 " Visit and Medicine for self
 " 14 " Visit and Medicine for self all Night

 Receipt of Eliza Fikes - Rec'd Aug. (14 or 16) 1844 for
 attendance for last sickness of the widow of George Kepler Decd.

 Receipt of Ferdinand Dal() - 1844 6.50 medical attendance
 North Manchester

 Receipt of S. W. Bartges for medicine

The following information was copied from History of Summit County, with an outline sketch of Ohio, edited by William Henry Perrin, Chicago: Baskin & Battey, Historical Publishers, 186 Dearborn Street, 1881, and reproduced by Unigraphic, Inc., 4400 Jackson Ave., Evansville, Ind. 47715, 1972.

Page 314. Dr. Samuel W. Bartges (Uriscopist), was born in Union City, Penn., in 1814, and in 1833, came with his parents to Columbiana County, Ohio, where he was engaged for a few years in a general merchandise stors. In 1837, he began reading medicine with Dr. John Dellenbaugh, with whom he remained for five years, during the last two of which he practiced to some extent. In 1842, he came to Akron, where he has continued to practice until the present time.

Page 320d. Dr. A. B. Campbell, Dr. Griesmer, Dr. Zwisler and Dr. Mikesell, each practiced in the township (Norton) a short time...

(Green Twp.) Drs. A. H. Mann, H. Peters, Jacob Musser, Wesley Boden, David Joseph, Benjamin F. Sampsell and Garber followed in close succession, each remaining a year or two...

East Liberty has had two doctors, L. S. Witwer and Jonathan Buchtel, each of whom remained about six years.

Page 782. Dr. William Sisler, Akron, is a native of Lycoming Co., Penn., and was born Sept. 12, 1819. He is the sixth child in a family of ten children born to Lewis and Margaret (Marsh) Sisler. They were natives of Pennsylvania, and moved to Erie Co., N. Y., in 1826, and engaged in farming, where he died. Mrs. Sisler continued her residence there until 1850, when she came to Manchester, Ohio, and lived with her children until her death, in 1872. At the age of 21 our subject came to Manchester, Ohio, where he followed teaching and farming. In 1843 he began reading medicine with Dr. Fernando Dalwick, of Canal Fulton, and in 1846 or 1847, he moved to Manchester, Summit Co., Ohio, and began to practice, his graduation at the Medical Department of Western Reserve College having been delayed because of his limited means. Upon the graduation of his brother, in 1852, they formed a partnership which continued until 1873. During the war, he responded to the call of Gov. Tod, and served in the hospitals after the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. In the fall of 1867, he was elected on the Republican ticket Representative from this County, to the State Legislature, and served one year. Upon coming to Akron, he, in company with his brother-in-law, John F. Hoy, opened a drug store, which was continued until the fall of 1879. During his residence in Akron, the Doctor has not practiced medicine, except to accommodate some of his friends. In the fall of 1875, he was elected County Commissioner, and was re-elected in the fall of 1878. On July 23, 1846, he married Miss L. R. Hoy, a native of Manchester, Summit Co., Ohio, of which place her parents are pioneers. Six children were born, of whom three are living, viz., Mary I., now Mrs. Diehl; Emma, now Mrs. Neiburg, and Henry.

Page 1030. (Biographical sketch of Byron Chapman, M. D.)... In the fall of 1835, this family came to Copley Township, and settled one-half mile south of Copley Center, on 154 acres, of Lot No. 28. Byron remained here with his parents until 22 years of age, receiving a good common-school education. At that time, he commenced the study of medicine with his brother William, who was a practicing physician at Copley Center. He attended medical lectures at Cleveland for two years, and graduated in March, 1847. At the time of his graduation, his brother William, the doctor, was taken ill and soon died. Byron took charge of his brother's practice immediately, and meeting with excellent success he has remained there ever since...

I'll make a few comments on the estate and information from Perrin. The name of one of the appraisers, John Burgner, was very difficult to read from his signature. However, I found it spelled "Burgner" in someone else's handwriting in the estate papers. The

amounts in the Schedule of property and money, etc. at the top of page 2 of this letter were very hard to make out exactly. As given, they do NOT total to \$287. Dr. D. (L. or S.) (Sampsol) was probably not the Dr. Benjamin F. Sampsell on page 320d of Perrin. One paper in the estate looked like his first name was David. However, he might have been related to B. F. Sampsell. One paper indicated that Isaac Fries was a Justice of the Peace. The List of Credits for disbursement, #7, regarding Eliza Fickes sounded like she nursed George, but the actual receipt indicated she cared for his widow. I tried to get a copy of the short receipt of Ferdinand Dal(), but it didn't come out at all. I left it on the desk at the courthouse and didn't pretend I'd pay for it! I included the entire sketch about Dr. William Sisler so you would have not only the reference to Dr. Fernando Dalwick, but also the parentage of Dr. Sisler. I would guess the second sale was held after Catharine Kepler died since it included the clothes previously set off to the widow. I noticed Magdalena Kepler bought items, including a quilt or coverlet at the sale and someone named Clay bought a Bible.

I hope this is the information you wanted.

Sincerely,

Ben Coss

Mrs. Edwin L. Coss

Chapter Two

ANCESTORS

O! A wonderful stream is the river Time
As it runs through the realm of tears
With a faultless rhythm and a musical rhyme
And a broader sweep and a surge sublime
As it blends in the ocean of years.

When time which steals our years away,
Shall steal our pleasures too,
The memory of the past will stay
And half our joys renew.

(Anonymous)

(From the inside leaf, and reprinted by permission, of Rosa Kepler Johnson's autograph book, circa 1881.)

Genealogical research is a difficult task requiring hours and hours of searching for too often nonexistent information-- tax rolls, census records, church files, newspaper articles, and on and on. But attempting to document what is known, or rather what is thought to be known, can be just as difficult because of the oftentimes conflicting reports concerning the same item. On rare occasions a conflicting report will be in obvious error, such as in reporting a death for a person in 1856 and their birth in 1868.

Most of the time, however, there is no way to tell which item is in error. Also, some reports are based on erroneous earlier reports, further compounding an error. Furthermore, there are serious errors, such as linking an ancestral line with an incorrect person, and minor errors, such as the spelling of a given name. For that matter, people themselves were not that exacting a hundred years ago, about names or dates or even events. For example, I understand that birth certificates were not required in some counties of Ohio until about 1858 and death certificates even after that. Also, civil servants (tax, census, land deed, etc.) spelled a name according to how it sounded (thus Snyder, Schneider, Schnider, or Keppler, Ceppler, Ceppler, Kepler, Kebler, Kepner, Keplar, and so on) or how a neighbor who was home that day (but the family wasn't) thought it was spelled. Much the same was done for names and ages by the census taker-- sometimes even overlooking a child.

One way to handle this problem is for everyone to research the records for him or her self. For those of us not so concerned with the accuracy of details and more interested in the overall genealogical picture, there is a better way: to simply note the conflicts and let someone interested in a particular conflict resolve and report it, if they have the time, interest, and energy. Besides, even the conflicts are interesting on occasion.

This is basically the path I have taken in this book. It is particularly apt for this chapter because the oldest information is typically the most in conflict and the least provable. In the first edition of this book we started with the Pennsylvania pioneers John and Andrew Kepler who moved to Ohio in 1809 and 1810 and ignored the issue of their ancestry, which was in question at the time. The ancestral line that was followed was that of John's son George and his wife Catharine. As much as possible, the descendants of this family were traced to the present. In addition, George's siblings were identified with their spouses, his parents, and his uncle Andrew's family (including the children and their spouses).

This second edition follows much the same approach with one exception-- the ancestry of John and Andrew are also given, to the extent known. The descendants of George and Catharine are more complete now, with additional pictures, births, lines, dates, and events. More information is also included about ancillary lines such as George's siblings, Catharine's ancestry, and Andrew's descendants. For more information on these lines contact Beverly Coss, Montford Kepler, or Barbara Thomas (in the Appendix: Directory) or Mrs. Josephine Bissel Tholl at Ledgewood Farm, 806 West Streetsboro Road, Peninsula, Ohio 44264.

But the ancestry of John and Andrew is still not fully resolved. There are two competing theories of their parentage and both are therefore presented

here. The general sources used for the materials in this chapter are those given in the Preface, plus what has been sent to me by interested parties. Contradictions are either discussed in text or indicated on the charts and figures directly.

It should be noted that the charts shown throughout this book do not follow standard genealogical notation due to lack of space. A date preceding (or above) a name is the person's birth date and following the name (or above, rear) is the death date, (month/day/year or, on occasion, month/year). The symbol ~ means "approximately", often a guess on my part assuming first births a year after marriage and following births every two years. A +(mo./day/year) is a marriage date. On occasion there may be multiple marriages and the offspring of each marriage follow the line emanating from the right of the + sign. An "a." in front of a name means adopted. A ? means name or date (i.e., month or day or year) in this location unknown. A dot (.) following only a given name is used to save space-- see the father's family name.

Not all remarriages are listed, particularly for living descendants. Remarriages are mainly listed when there are children resulting from the union, or when the person is listed in the directory under that name. For convenience in identifying the ancestry of a person, or exactly which say, Robert Kepler, we are referring to, all of George and Catharine's descendants are numbered according to a building-decimal scheme, explained in Chapter 4. This scheme is not used in this chapter however since we do not go that deep into descendants.

Later in the chapter we will discuss the ancillary lines and ancestry of John and Andrew in more detail. But for now, let us go back, according to Perrin (see Preface), to "the beginning".

* * * * *

In the fall of 1809 a four-horse wagon wound its way from eastern Pennsylvania to the rolling hills of eastern Ohio, "Congress land" as it was called, finally settling in a location where the streams wound around the hills and the soil was moist and rich, now known, appropriately, as Green Township. The wagon was driven by Andrew Kepler, a 32 year old farmer from Pennsylvania, and was carrying his brother John and John's belongings and his family: Magdalena, John's wife; Catharine, age 9; John, age 7; Jacob, almost 5; Andrew, 2 1/2; and Daniel, born just the previous year.

John was a blacksmith by trade and was moving, along with his brother's family, to resettle on the available lands in eastern Ohio. They were known as "Pennsylvania Dutch" and spoke a dialect of German among themselves, although they also could converse in English. Though others lived in this area of Ohio, white settlers as well as Indians, no one had yet bought land. These white families were generally very poor and were allowed by the government to live in Section 16 (circled in map, Figure 2.1, in the center of the section) if they would make a certain amount of improvements each year in the farmland they occupied.

Andrew and John built a temporary hut to house John's family while Andrew went back to Pennsylvania to bring his family, arriving in the spring of 1810. They then constructed a more permanent cabin in which both families lived for awhile. The approximate location of this cabin is indicated by a small box in Section 17 of Figure 2.1. In August of 1810, John and Andrew purchased 320 acres of land surrounding the cabin, thus becoming the first permanent residents of Green Township. The document recording this historic purchase is reproduced and transcribed, courtesy of Montford Kepler, in Figures 2.2 and 2.3. On June 12, 1815 they divided the land between them so they each legally owned a definite piece of the property, John taking the north half and Andrew the south half (Figures 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4), boxed in Figure 2.1. (Note John and Andrew's unusual signatures in these figures. Andrew seems to spell his last name in Figure 2.4 "Locbleru".)

Life was hard for the pioneer families. Mills, provisions, and supplies were extremely distant and many times families ran out of food, having then nothing to eat except their basics and seed. As Perrin quotes (p. 600), one such family had "parsley for breakfast, parsley for dinner, and parsley for supper". During the war of 1812, while Andrew served in the army (John sent a substitute), Andrew's wife traded farm goods with the Indians for venison, which was still plentiful in those days. The ground was very fertile, however, and yielded in abundance so that by 1815 the settlers generally had plenty to eat and were well-clothed (homemade), though they considered themselves poor since they had very little money.

Traditions did not change in the new township and marriages, births, and deaths occurred as always. Perrin (p. 606) notes that Andrew Kepler apparently performed the first marriage ceremony prior to 1812 (though unrecorded) and observers report that the vows proceeded as follows:

"You bromise to take te voman you holt by te hant to pe
your wife, and tat you will shtick to her tru hell-fire
and dunder?

Den I bronounce you man and voman, by cot! Now, vers
mine tollar?"

Summit County, Ohio

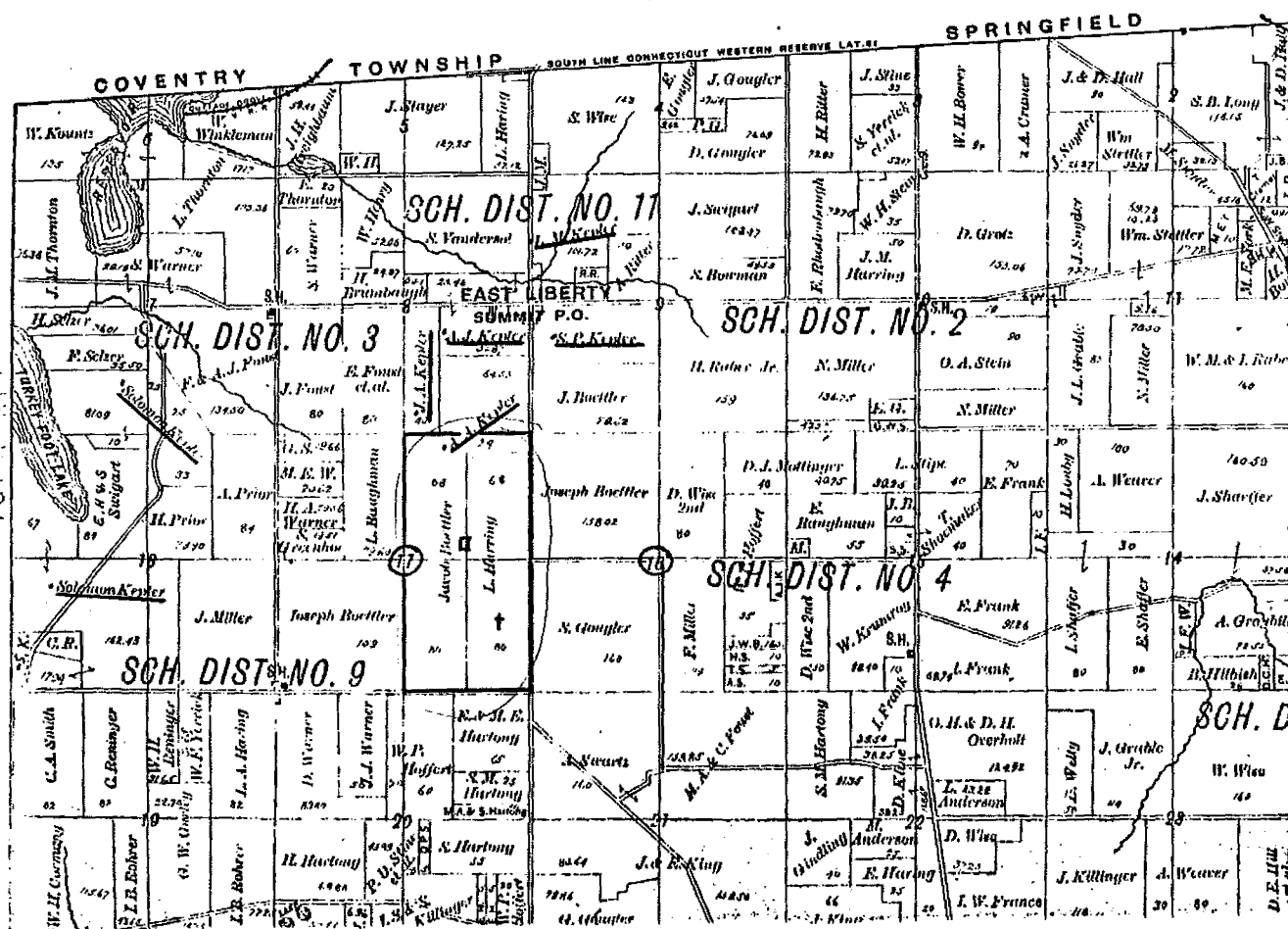


FIGURE 2.1 MAP OF GREEN TOWNSHIP, SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO (CIRCA 1890)
(Shows Keplers: Solomon, J.A., S.P., L.M., A.J., and A.A.
farms. Mainly Andrew's ancestors.)

James Madison President of the United States of America
 To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting
 Know ye That John & Andrew Kepler of Berks County Pennsylvania having
 deposited in the Treasury a Certificate of the register of the Land Office attested
 by the Clerk of the said Office whereby it appears that they have made full payment for the East half of
 Lot or Section number seventeen Township number thirteen in Range number nine
 of the Land directed to be sold at Newmarket by the act of Congress entitled an act
 Providing for the Sale of the Lands of the United States in the Territory northwest of
 the Ohio and above the Mouth of the Kentucky River and of the acts amendatory
 of the same then in force ^{in the United States} granted unto the said John and Andrew Kepler the half
 Lot or Section of Land above described To have and to hold the said half Lot or
 Section of Land with the appurtenances unto the said John and Andrew Kepler
 their heirs and Assigns forever tenants in common and not as joint tenants
 In testimony whereof I have caused these Letters to be signed by me

[Signature] and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed
 Given under my hand at the City of Washington the twentieth day
 of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Ten and
 of the Independence of the United States of America the thirty fifth
 By the President James Madison
 Alexander H. R. Secretary of State
 Recorded 18th May 1815

Whereas the President of the United States doth by his Letters Patent bearing date
 at the City of Washington the twentieth day of August one thousand eight
 hundred and Ten did grant and confirm for the benefit of the United States to
 John Kepler and Andrew Kepler as tenants in common and not as joint
 tenants the East half of Section number seventeen in Township number Thirteen
 of Range number nine - and whereas the said John and Andrew Kepler by their joint
 deed of the said half Section between them Now this Patent in and by the
 said John Kepler in consideration of the sum of one dollar to him in
 hand paid by said Andrew Kepler Doth Part of said Section of Land the receipt
 whereof is hereby acknowledged that he has granted Bargained and sold Assigned Transferred

FIGURE 2.2 DEED OF LAND TO JOHN AND ANDREW KEPLER (AUG 10, 1810)
 AND TRANSFER OF SOUTH HALF FROM JOHN TO ANDREW ON
 JUNE 12, 1815 (SEE FIGURE 2.3 FOR TRANSLATION)

1320

and quit claimed and by these presents doth grant, sell, give and sell unto the said
 and quit claim unto said Andrew Repley and to his heirs and assigns forever
 the above right title interest perfect claim and demand whomever within in future
 equity of them the said John of in or to the part of said tract a half section of
 land included in the following Bound viz Beginning at the north East corner of
 section number 17 thence west on the section line twenty chains & links to a post then
 south the said half section eighty chains and links to a post on the south line of said
 half section thence East Ninety chains and eighty links to the SE corner of said
 section and thence north eighty chains and 84 links to the Place of Beginning
 Containing one hundred and eighty acres and $\frac{27}{100}$ of an acre be the same more or less
 or have and to hold the said tract of land to him the said Andrew Repley in severalty
 and to his heirs and assigns forever In Witness whereof the said John Repley
 hereunto sign his name and affixes his seal and Margaret Repley wife of said John
 in Testimony whereof relinquishment and release and discharge doth give in said
 Premises hereunto signs her name and affixes her seal with said Andrew at said County
 of Stark the twentieth day of June Anno Domini 1815

Signed Seal and
 Delivered in Presence
 Joshua Richman
 John Aaron Greenman

Governs probated
 Matthew Repley
 mark

END OF TRANSLATION

FIGURE 22(CONT.)

In the twelfth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand
Eight hundred and ~~Eighty~~ ^{Eighty} Personally appeared John Goffles and wife before me
the subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace for said County and acknowledged the foregoing
Signature their own act of the will for the purpose therein expressed

John Goffles
Joshua Goffles
Colomon Spooner
Witnessed 18th February 1818

George W. Foster
Magistrate of the Peace
Joshua Goffles

J. H. H. H.

This Indenture made this Nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord one
Thousand Eight hundred and ~~Eighty~~ ^{Eighty} Between John Goffles and Mary Goffles his
Wife of the County of Stark and State of Ohio of the one part and Andrew Goffles
of the said County of the other Part witnesseth that the said John Goffles for and in con-
sideration of the sum of Eight hundred Dollars paid to him in hand by the receipt whereof
he do hereby acknowledge hath granted conveyed and sold and by these presents doth
grant bargain and sell unto the said Andrew Goffles his heirs or assigns all the follow-
ing Tract or parcel of Land with the appurtenances situated lying and being in said
County of Stark and being the South West quarter of Section Number Nine of Township
Number Twelve of Range Number Nine being the same Tract of Land this now Deed is made
by the said John Goffles by said Andrew Goffles as Administrator of Peter Buckhiller's Estate
which will appear fully by referring to said Deed and which Tract of Land was
granted to said Peter Buckhiller by Patent dated at the City of Washington 5th day of August 1816 To Have and to Hold the above described tract or parcel of
Land and premises with the appurtenances to the said Andrew Goffles his heirs or
assigns and to the only legal heirs and assigns of the said Andrew Goffles his heirs and
assigns forever and that said John Goffles for himself and his heirs do hereby

FIGURE 22 (CONT.)

James Madison Presiden of the United States of America

To all to whom these Presents Shall Come Greeting

Know Ye That John & Andrew Kepler of Center County Pennsylvania having Deposited in the Treasury a Certificate of the register of the Land Office at Stubenville whereby it appears that they have made full payment for the East half of Lot or Section number Seventeen Township Number twelve in Range Number Nine of the Land directed to be Sold at Stubenville by the act of Congress Entitled an act Providing for the Sale of the Land of the United States in the Territory northeast of the Ohio and Above the Mouth of Kentucky River and of the acts Amendatory of the same there is Granted by the United States unto the Said John and Andrew Kepler the half Lot or Section of Land above described To have and to hold the said Half Lot or Section of Land with the appertanances unto the said John and Andrew Kepler their heirs and Assigns forever as tentants in Common and not as Joint Tenants.

In Testimony Whereof I have Caused there Letters to be made Patent and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed

Given under my hand at the City of Washington the twentieth day of August in the year of Our Lord one Thousand Eight hundred and Ten and of the Independence of the United States of America the thirty fifth.



By the President

James Madison

R. Smith Secretary of State

Recorded 18th February 1818 Wm. Raymond Rec.

Whereas the President of the United States did by his Letters Bearing date at the City of Washington the twentieth Day of August one Thousand Eight hundred and ten Did grant and Confirm / in Behalf of the United States to John Kepler and Andrew Kepler as tenants in Common and not as Joint Tenants the East half of Section Number Seventeen in Township Number Twelve of Range Number Nine - And whereas the said John and Andrew have by Mutual Conccent divided the said half Section Between them. Now this Tendendure Witnyseth.

That the Said John Kepler in Concideration of the Sum of One Dollar to him in Hand paid by Said Andrew Kepler / Both Parties of Stark County and state of Ohio the reciept whereof do hereby acknowledge both Granted Sold Assigned Transferred and quit Claimed and by there Presents doth grant Bargain and Sell Assign Transfer and quit Claim unto Said Andrew Kepler an to his heirs and assigns foreverall the Estate right title interest Claim or Demand whatever either in Land or Equity of him the Said John of in of to the part of Said Tract or half Section of Land including on the following Bounds Viz Begining at the north East Corner of said section number 17 thence west on the Section Line twenty chains 4 1/2 links to a post thence South thru Said Half Section Eighty Chains and 16 Links to a post on the South Line of Said Half Section thence East nineteen Chanins and Eighty Links to the S.E. Coner of Said Section and thence north Eighty Chains and 14 Links to the Places of Beginning Containing one hundred and sixty acres and 27/100 of an acre be the Same or Left.

To Have and to Hold the said Tract of Land to him the Said Andrew Kepler in _____ and for his own Proper use and behoof forever In Witneys whereof the Said John Kepler here to signs his name and affixes his Seal and Magdalena Kepler wife of Said John in Testimony of her relinquishment and release and discharge of Dower in Said Premises hereto Signs her name and affixes her Seal with Said Andrew at Said County of Stark the tweleth day of June Anno Domini 1815

Signed Sealed and Delivered
in Presence of
Joshua Richards
Solomon _____

_____ ? _____ Kepler
Magdalena ^{her} X Kepler
mark

Andrew Kepler } Whereas the President of the United States did
 To } in his letters Patent dated at the City of Was-
 John Kepler } hington the twentieth day of August Anno-
 } Domini 1810 did grant and confirm in behalf
 of United States to John Kepler and Andrew Kepler as tenants
 in common and not as joint tenants the east half of Sec-
 tion No. Seventeen in Township No. Twelve of Range No. Nine.
 And whereas the said John and Andrew have by mutual agree-
 ment decided the said half section between them. Now
 this Indenture witnesseth that the said Andrew Kepler for the
 consideration of the sum of One Dollar to him paid by
 the said John Kepler to the parties of Stark County Court the
 receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargain-
 ed and sold assigned transferred quit claim, and by these
 presents doth grant bargain and sell assign transfer and
 quit claim unto said John Kepler and to his heirs and as-
 signs forever all that part of the said half section of land
 which is included within the following Notes and Bords Viz.
 Beginning at the Quarter section Corner on the north line
 of said Section No 17 thence East twenty chains $4\frac{1}{2}$ like to
 a post thence South Eighty Chains and 16 links a post on the
 South line of said Section thence west on said line Nineteen
 chains and 80 links to the 4th post on the South line of said
 Section and thence North Seventy Eight Chains and 88
 links to the Beginning Counting One hundred and fifty
 eight acres and $\frac{7}{8}$ of an Acre be the same more or less.
 To have and to hold the said tract of land to the said
 John Kepler in entirety and for his own proper use and
 behoof forever. In Witness whereof the said Andrew Kep-
 ler hereto signs his Name and affixes his seal, and Mary
 Kepler wife of said Andrew for testimony of his relinquishment
 and discharge of Law in the premises with the said grantor
 hereto signs her Name and affixes her seal at the said County
 of Stark, the twelfth day of June Anno Domini 1815.
 Signed Sealed and Delivered:

in Presence of
 Joshua Richards
 Witness
 On the twelfth day of June in the year of Our Lord eighteenth Hun-
 dred and fifteen personally appeared Andrew Kepler + wife
 before me the subscriber and acknowledged the foregoing Deed
 to be their own Act of free will for the purpose therein ex-
 pressed.
 Witness Present
 Joshua Richards
 Notary Public
 Vincent LeBlanc (Seal)
 Mary Kepler (Seal)
 Andrew Kepler (Seal)
 Mary x Kepler
 Joshua Richards

FIGURE 2.4 DEED OF LAND TO JOHN FROM ANDREW (JUNE 12, 1815)

Andrew later received a commission as Justice of the Peace but refused to perform any more marriages. John Kepler also served in public office, being elected Constable on July 6, 1811.

The first death in the township was possibly that of Andrew's little son, Andrew, in 1812. He was buried on Andrew's farm and many later deaths in the neighborhood, including John's in about 1833 in a cider-press accident, were added to this location, shown as a cross in Figure 2.1.

The original land was passed on to heirs, pieces sold, other parcels bought, and holdings extended (indicated with heavy underlines in the 1891 maps shown in Figures 2.1, 2.5, and 2.6). In particular, Figures 2.7 and 2.8 show two of the three property holdings of George and Catharine. In Figure 2.8 the cabin is noted and valued at only 130 dollars. The cabin is believed to have been located on the road (now Turkeyfoot Lake Road) and was torn down and replaced by the husband, George Snyder, of George and Catharine's oldest child, Susannah. A picture of the house, now owned by a Tomsik family, is included in Chapter 4.

Birth and death locations are not generally given throughout this book due to a lack of space. However, another reason is the confusion in the location of a family when the counties change legal boundaries but the family stays in one place. For example, George and Catharine's farm appears to have been located in Medina, Portage, and Stark counties at one time, in addition to Summit county. See Figure 2.9 for the movement and creation of these counties over the years.

Figure 2.10 identifies the major locations of interest in the Summit County area, numbered for convenience. John and Andrew's original land is shown at 1, with John's cabin indicated by the box and the later-built Haring (Andrew descendent) house, barn, and summer house indicated by boxes. (See Figure 2.11 for an enlargement of this area as sketched by Montford Kepler.) The barn was torn down and the house and summer house burned down by the fire department about 1979. The latter two are shown in the pictures of Figure 2.12, taken by Montford Kepler. He believes that these are not the original buildings of Andrew but rather the home built by Samuel Haring, his grandfather.

Area 2 in Figure 2.10 is the location of George and Catharine's land, two parcels contiguous and the third (Section 7, 26 acres) west of Turkeyfoot Lake Road. This is the land that Susannah, George and Catharine's oldest child inherited (I assume). Her husband, George Snyder, tore the cabin down and built a house, we presume on the same foundations. Mary Sour, Susannah's sister, and her husband Henry's farm is shown further west of Susannah's farm at 3. (Pictures of Susannah's and Mary's families are in Chapter 4.)

Susannah and George Snyder (and son William) are buried in the Kyser cemetery on Swigart Road at location 4. Most of the rest of the family are buried either at Manchester cemetery, location 5 or East Liberty cemetery, location 6. The East Liberty cemetery's location relative to John and Andrew's land is shown in Figure 2.13, Section 17 is circled and Haring Road and even the dirt road are also shown. The locations of the graves of various descendents of John and Andrew are plotted and identified in Figure 2.14, courtesy again of Montford Kepler.

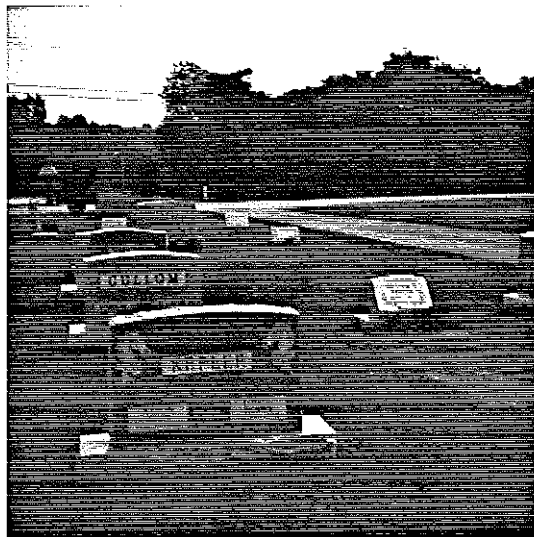
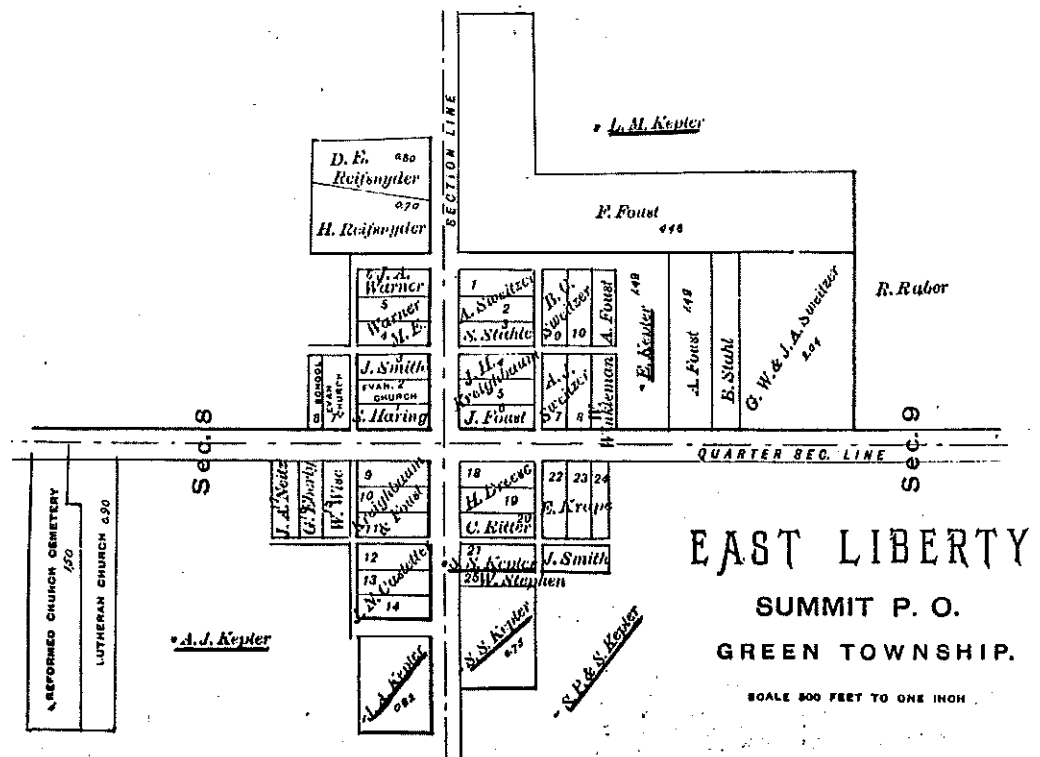
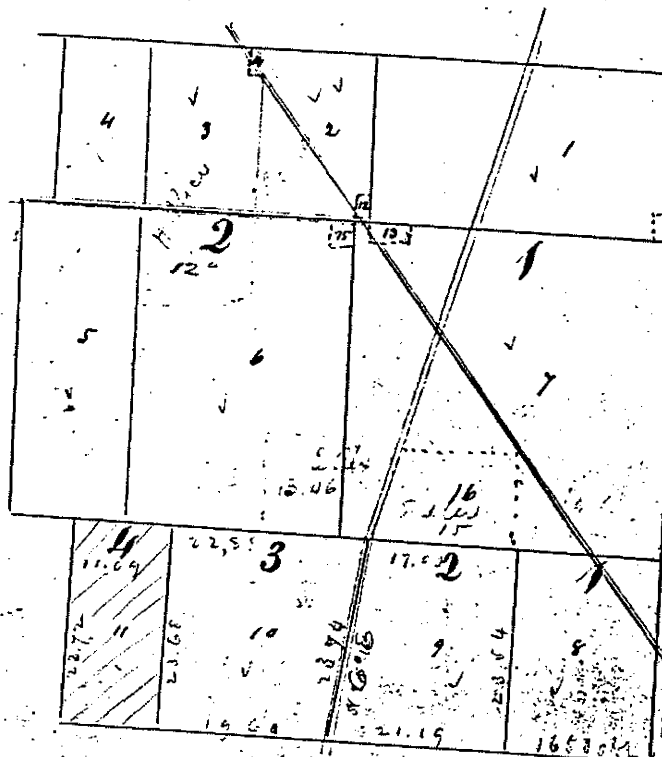


FIGURE 2.6 KEPLER LOTS AND FARMS; AARON KEPLER'S GRAVE

Coventry T.P.

Tract No. 14. E. & N. E.
1852 Tax Map



Coventry Lands

Owner's Names	Part	Tract	Lot	Plow Land	Measure	Timber	Total No. a	per a	Value
W. & C. Dickenson	N. of Lockwood cor	14	51	18			70	18	1260
Richard Simons	N. of Dickenson		24.75				24.75	20	495
do	House								150
Abraham Dickhoeof	N. of Simons		24.75				24.75	20	495
do	House								✓ 150
Samuel Campbell	N. of Dickhoeof		20				20	20	400
Abraham Gail	E. of Bugner	2	38		12		50	21	1050
S. Hand & R. Lockwood	E. of A. Gail	1 & 2	179				179	20	3580
do	House 105 House 125 House 150								✓ 380
Joseph Swigart	N. ft of	1	37.17				37.17	21	780
do	House 150. Barn 105								✓ 355
Henry Chickener	E. of S. Pipher	1	35		5	40	18	720	
do	House 105. Barn 275								✓ 376
Samuel Pipher	E. of G. Pipher	2	40.46		6	46.46	22	1022	
do	House								✓ 105
George Pipher	N. of S. Pipher	3	43.23		7	50.23	22	1105	
do	House								✓ 115
George Kepler	N. of G. Pipher	4	19.28		7	26.28	22	575	
Unites Betham Church	S. E. Cor N. Simons		.25			.25			6
do	House								✓ 500
Grave Land			.50			.50			10
School Dist No.	N. E. cor Dickhoeof		.35			.35			6
do	House								100

FIGURE 2.7 GEORGE KEPLER'S LAND

Coventry S. P.

tract No 14. M. P. 6.

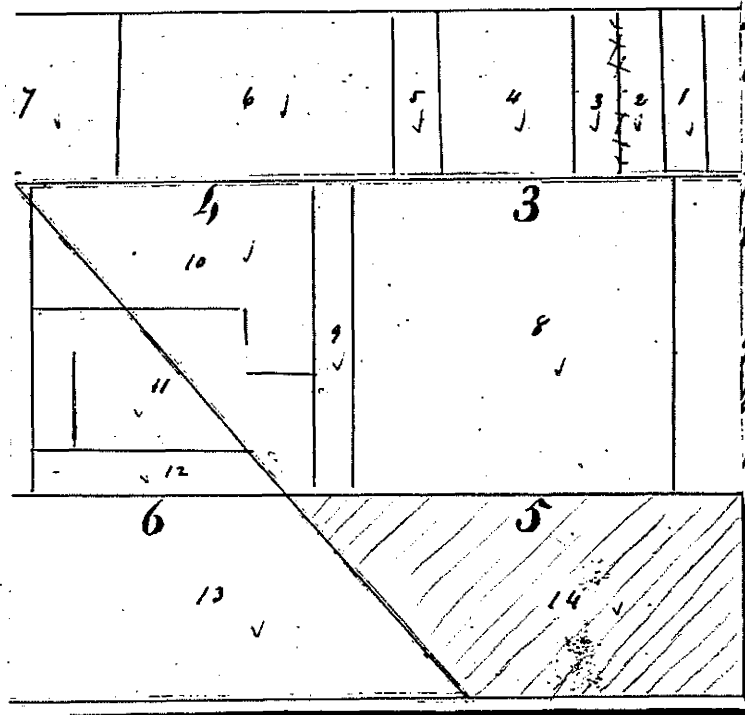


FIGURE 2.8 GEORGE KEPLER'S LAND
AND CABIN

Coventry Lands

Owner Names

- 1 Jane Symons
- 2 Samuel Campbell
- 3 Eliza Symons
- 4 John Borgner
- 5 Jacob Sellers
- 6 John Johnston
- do
- John Gales
- 8 John Borgner
- do
- 9 do
- 10 Joseph Strunk
- 11 J. B. Bowers
- do
- 12 George Wagoner
- 13 Peter Bowers
- do
- 14 George Kepler
- do
- 15 School Dist. No. 9
- do

Parts	Tract	Lot	Plow land	House	Timber	Total Area	Acres	Val
W. of S. Campbell	14	10.			10.	18	180	
E. of E. Symons	"	10.			10.	20	200	
W. of S. Campbell	"	10.			10.	20	200	
E. of Sellen	"	30.			30.	30	660	
W. of J. Boyner	"	"		10.	10.	25	250	
E. of J. Garls	"	53.		5.	58.	20	1160	
House							✓	150
W. of J. Johnston		33.50			33.50	32	737	
W. of A. Garls	"	3 58.	10.	65.	126.	20	2720	
House 125 Barn 400							✓	525
E. of Strunk	"	4 9.		5.	14.	22	308	
N. of Bowens	"	4 42.		11.	53.	21	1113	
S. of J. Strunk	"	4 44		12.	56.	21	1134	
House							✓	350
S. of J. B. Brown				15	15.	21	315	
W. of Road	6	97.48		13	112.48	23	2587	
House							✓	125
E. of R —	5	109.54		17.	126.54	22	2783	
House							✓	130
West of R. Garls	"	12			12		5	
House							✓	100
			531.66	15.	156.	279.54		15739

By Erma Weaver - 1982

Town of NEW PORTAGE was in Portage Co. as of 1807 and in Medina Co. in 1812, and also in the year of 1836, and in Summit Co. as of 1840. New Portage presently known as Barberton in Norton township.

Red line is the present Summit Co.

Black lines represent county boundary in 1836

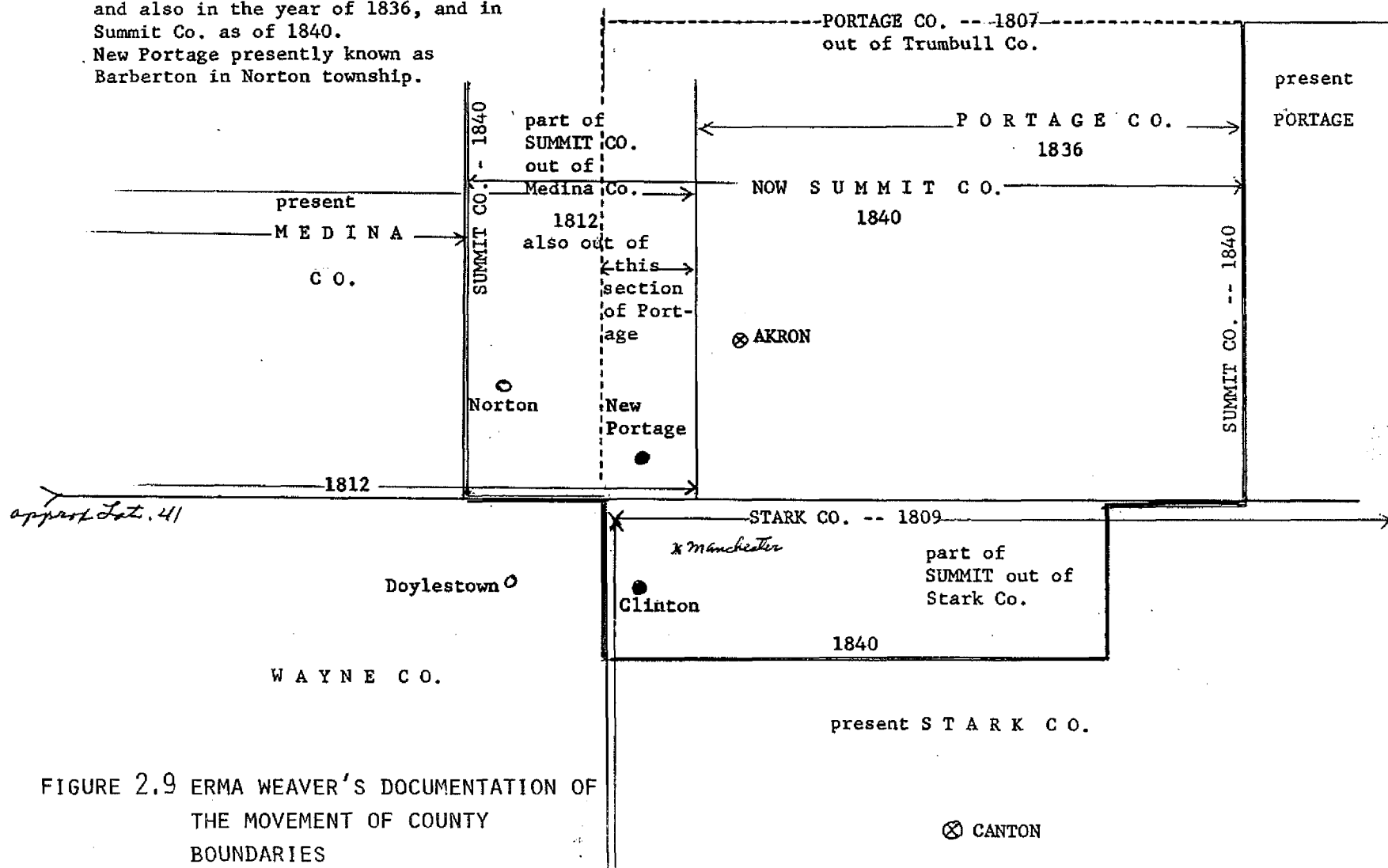


FIGURE 2.9 ERMA WEAVER'S DOCUMENTATION OF THE MOVEMENT OF COUNTY BOUNDARIES

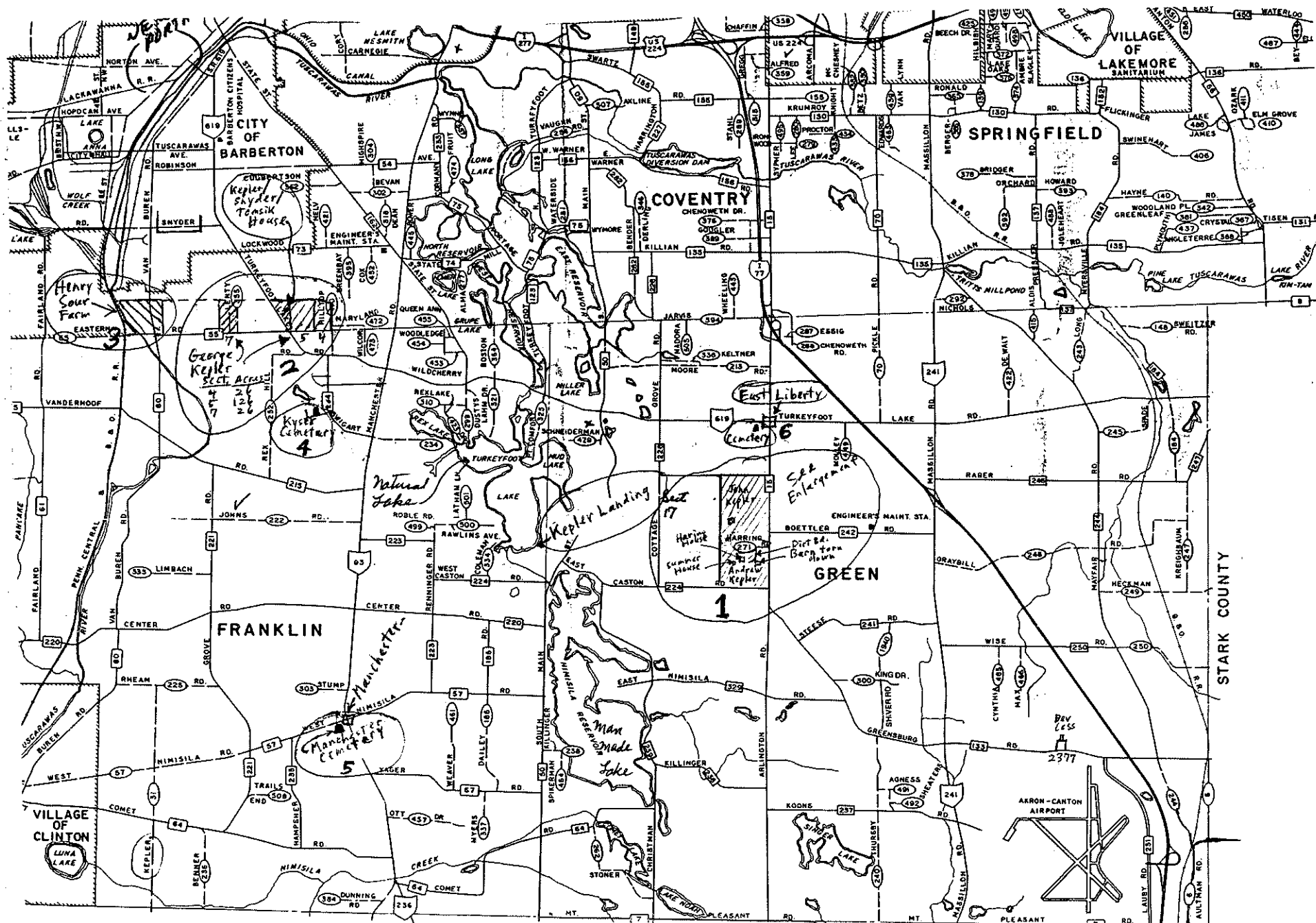


FIGURE 2 10 SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO 1907

Montford Kepler
Ridgely Rd.

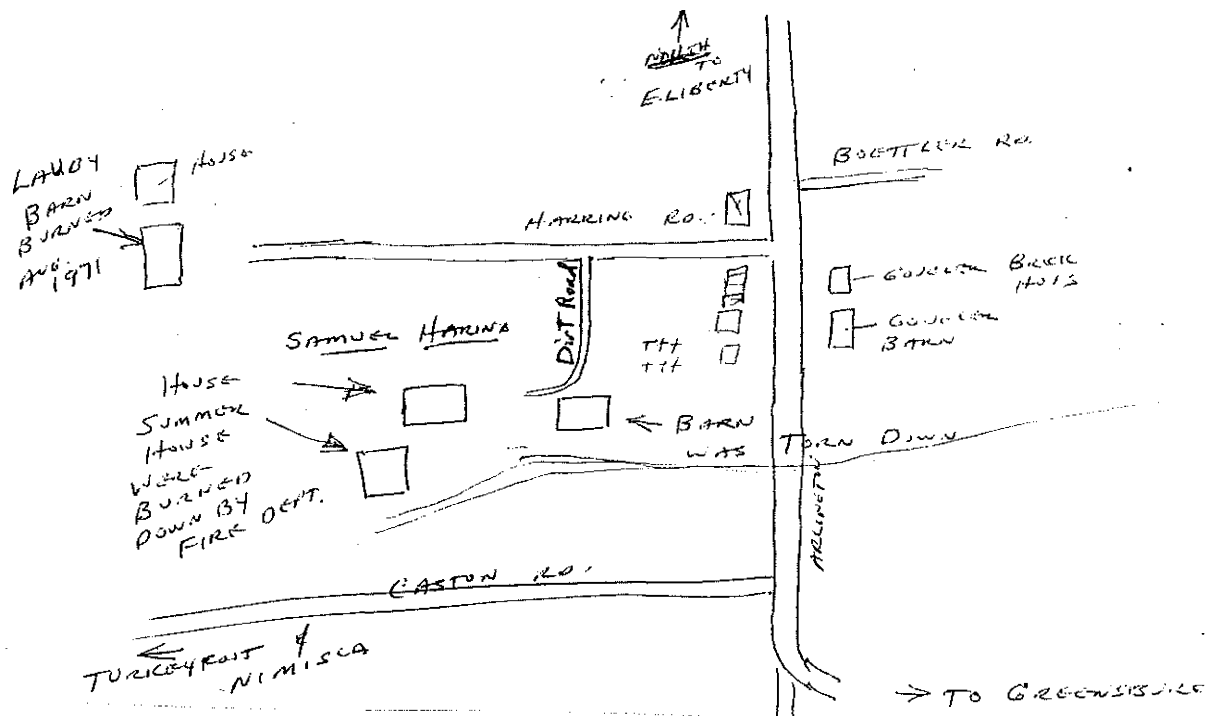


FIGURE 2.11 ENLARGEMENT OF AREA 1 BY MONTFORD KEPLER



FIGURE 2.12 PHOTOS BY MONTFORD KEPLER OF THE SUMMER HOUSE (TOP)
AND THE HOME OF SAMUEL HARING FAMILY

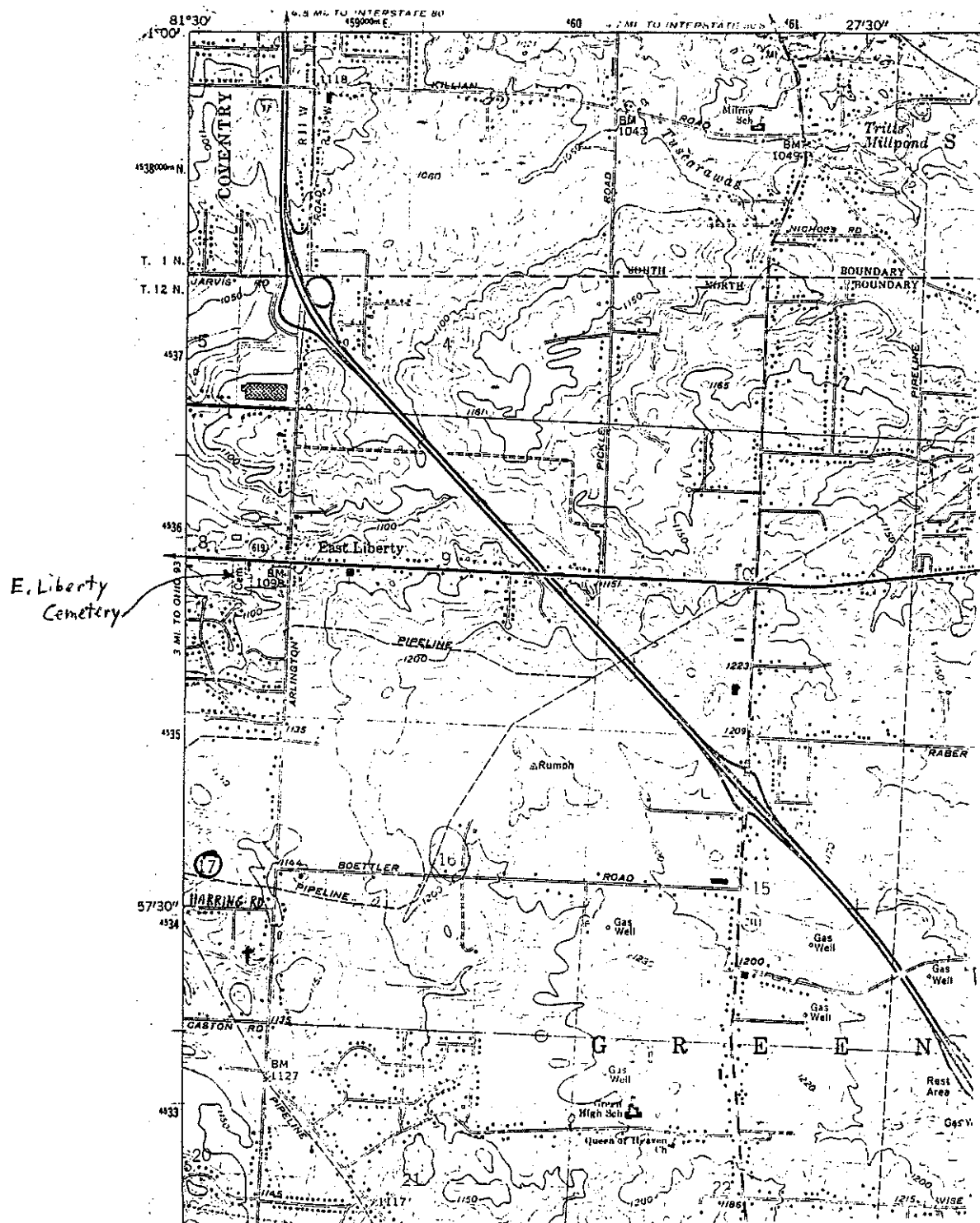
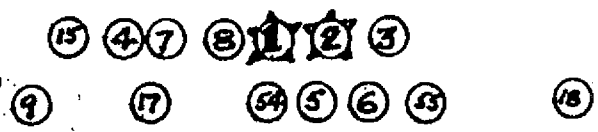
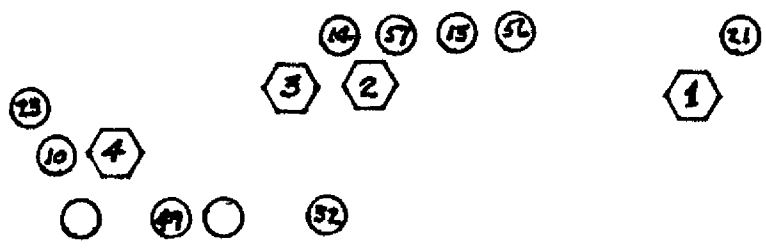
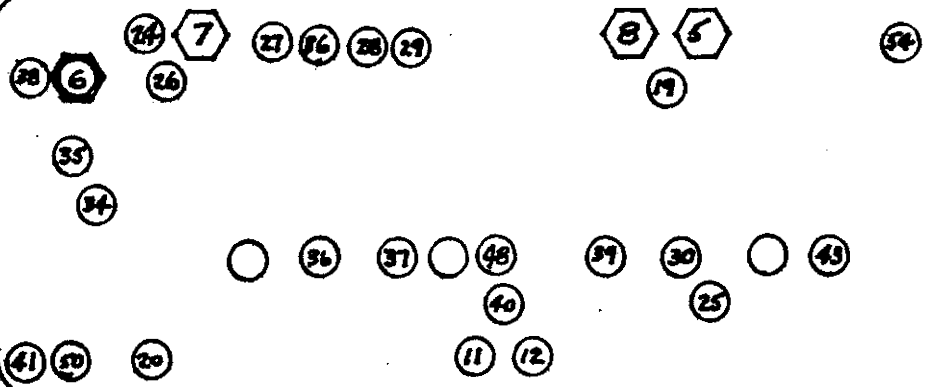


FIGURE 2.13 MAP AND BUILDINGS OF EAST LIBERTY

53

31

35



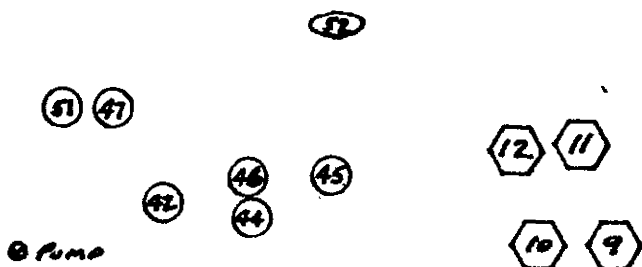
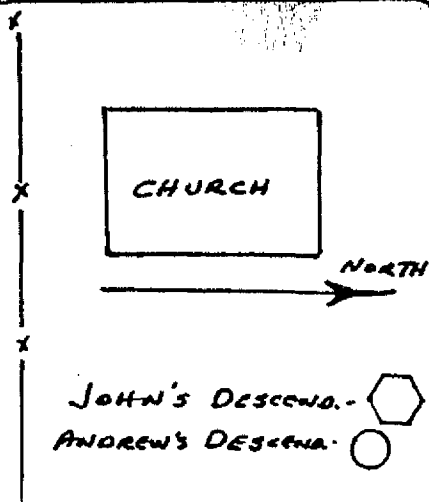


FIGURE 2.14

EAST LIBERTY CEMETERY
GREEN TWP. SUMMIT Co.
OHIO

APPROX. LOCATION OF DESCENDENTS
 OF JOHN & ANDREW KEALER
 JOHN 12TH TWP. SETTLER BORN IN FAMILY
 PLOT APPROX 1 MILE SOUTH (CEMETERY
 DESTROYED IN EARLY 1900'S)



OHIO STATE ROUTE # 619

**DIRECTORY of GENERAL LOCATION of
KEPLER DESCENDENTS (or PERSONS LINKED BY
MARRIAGE TO A KEPLER) IN EAST LIBERTY CEMETERY.
JOHN KEPLER - 1ST. CREDITED SETTLER OF GREEN
TWP. SUMMIT CO. OHIO - WAS BURIED IN ANDREW
KEPLER FAMILY CEMETERY (DESTROYED IN EARLY
1900'S) JOHN'S DESCENDENTS GRAVES - IDENTITY -
ANDREW KEPLER, BROTHER of ABOVE JOHN, THESE
BROTHERS WERE MARRIED TO TWIN SISTERS.
ANDREW'S DESCENDENTS GRAVES IDENTITY -**

	STONE LOCATION			
I	(1)	KEPLER, ANDREW BROTHER of JOHN 1ST SETTLER		D. 1-16-1855
I	(2)	KEPLER, MARY (KRAMER) WIFE of ANDREW - SISTER of JOHN'S WIFE	7-24-1776	4-11-1852 75YR. 8 mo. 17DAS.
II	(3)	KEPLER, JACOB A. SON of 1 & 2		4-2-1871 61YR. 9 mo. 25DAS.
II	(4)	KEPLER, CHRISTIANA (HUSHBERGER) WIFE of 3		10-21-1893 80YR. 4 mo. 14DAS.
	(5)	HARING, LEWIS		7-29-1871 67YR. 8 mo.
II	(6)	^{REBECCA} HARING, MARGARET (KEPLER) DAUGHTER of 1 & 2 WIFE of 5		5-27-1892 83YR. 1 mo. 7DAS.
	(7)	WILHELM, PETER		2-13-1871
II	(8)	WILHELM, CATHERINE (KEPLER) DAUGHTER of 1 & 2 WIFE of 7	7-2-1800	10-8-1861 61YR. 3 mo. 6DAS.
II	(9)	{ KEPLER, ANDREW A. SON of 1 & 2 KEPLER, SARAH (KINTZ) WIFE of ANDREW A.	3-16-1815 6-20-1817	11-11-1894 79YR. 7 mo. 15DAS. 4-7-1897 79YR. 9 mo. 17DAS.
II	(10)	{ WARNER, DAVID WARNER, SARAH (KEPLER) DAUGHTER of 1 & 2 WIFE of DAVID.		2-3-1885 78YR. 4 mo. 15DAS. 3-30-1805 - 5-29-1892 87YR. 12 mo. 29DAS.

- STONE
LOCATION
- III (11) { KEPLER, SOLOMON 8-29-1840 2-26-1911
SON of 3 & 4
KEPLER, ELIZABETH (CARST) 3-20-1840 5-19-1888
- IV (12) KEPLER, HATTIE (HARING) 7-18-1868 6-9-1936
DAUGHTER of 13 WIFE of 11
- III (13) { HARING, SAMUEL 12-1-1844 2-22-1918
SON of 5 & 6
HARING, REBECCA (WISE) 9-29-1844 3- -1896
WIFE of SAMUEL
- III (14) { HARING, LEWIS 1851 1906
SON of 5 & 6
HARING, MARY (FOUST) 1851 1925
- III (15) NEAL, ELIZABETH (KEPLER) 1830 1913
DAUGHTER of 3 & 4 WIFE of J.R. NEAL
- III (16) { KEPLER, ADAM 10-28-1838 1924
SON of 3 & 4
KEPLER, MARY (SEMLER) 1838 6-27-1919
- III (17) { KEPLER, LEVI MADISON 1852 1932
SON of 9
KEPLER, MARY (FRANK) 1853 1925
WIFE of LEVI MADISON
- III (18) { KREIGHBAUM, JOHN 1846 1933
KREIGHBAUM, MARTHA (KEPLER) 1851 1934
DAUGHTER of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDAUGHTER of 1 & 2
- III (19) { FOUST, FREDERICK 1843- 1902
FOUST, LUCETTA (KEPLER) 1841 1919
DAUGHTER of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDAUGHTER of 1 & 2 78YE.
- III (20) SMITH, JOHN 1830 1905
SMITH, MARGARET (KEPLER) 1832 1918
DAUGHTER of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDAUGHTER of 1 & 2

- III (21) { RININGER, WM H. 1843 1923
RININGER, MARY A. (KEPLER) 1837 1926
DAUGHTER of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDDAUGHTER of 1 & 2
- III (22) { DREESE, HIRAM 12-11-1844 1-1-1918
DREESE, LOVENA (KEPLER) 10-15-1848 4-21-1927
DAUGHTER of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDDAUGHTER of 1 & 2
- III (23) KEPLER, JOHN GAR
SON of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDSON of 1 & 2
- III (24) { KEPLER, EPHRAIM 1846 1911
SON of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDSON of 1 & 2
KEPLER, MARY (SMITH) 1844 1934
- III (25) { KEPLER, SIMON 1855- 1923
SON of JOHN A. & M. KEPLER GRANDSON of 1 & 2
KEPLER, ELMIRA (GARL) 1866 1942
- III (26) { BETTLER, JOSEPH 11-4-1842 8-7-1912
BETTLER, LAAN (HARING) 12-26-1842 9-12-1926
DAUGHTER of 5 & 6
- IV (27) KEPLER, WM 1871 1911
SON of 16-
STARTED KEPLER'S LANDING ON TURKEYFOOT
- IV (28) KEPLER, JACOB - ??? 1861 1941
SON of 16
- IV (29) KEPLER, SAMUEL 1863 1941
SON of 16
- IV (30) { KEPLER, CLEM 1874 1949
SON of 16
KEPLER, SARAH (FOUST) 1876 1941
SISTER of 33
- IV (31) { KEPLER, PERCEY 1880 1950
SON of 16
KEPLER, MARGARET (LEWIS) 1889 1972

- II (32) KEPLER, OLIVER 7-31-1851
SON of 9 14r. 2mo. 1200s.
- II (33) KEPLER, EARNEST
SON of 9
KEPLER, LILLIAN (FOUST)
SISTER of 30
- II (34) { BETTLER, WILSON 1869 1957
SON of 26
IV BETTLER, CLARA (SWICKET) 9-14-1874 1-10-1964
DAUGHTER of SOPHIA KEPLER SWICKET DAUG. of 3
- II (35) { BETTLER, CLAUDE 5-28-1885 12-9-1975
SON of 26
BETTLER, ELTA 11-29-1888 6-14-19
- II (36) HARING, SAMUEL, JR. 4-11-1873 7-8-1938
SON of 13
- II (37) { HARING, WM, SR. 9-6-1877 11-21-1940
SON of 13
HARING, CLARA (SWEITZER) (PONTIUS) 6-14-1881- 2-26-196
- II (38) { HARING, HIRAM 1-13-1882 5-17-1939
SON of 13
HARING, MAY (BRAUCHER) 1885 1948
- II (39) MILLER, NELSON 1879 1919
HUSBAND of HARING, CLARA - 2ND HUSBAND BICKEL DAUG. of 13
- II (40) DENIOUS, ALVERTIS 4-11-1854 2-14-1894
HUSBAND of BELL (KEPLER) (REX) 39yr. 10mo. 3000s.
- II (41) KEPLER, ANDREW 7-2-1890 2-17-1956
SON of 11 & 12
KEPLER, EVA (DAUGHTERY) 12-28-1893 5-17-1917
- II (42) KEPLER, AARON 1-1-1892 2-13-1948
SON of 11 & 12
KEPLER, LOIS (HUNTER) 5-14-1907 9-5-1968
37

- IV (43) { DAILY, CLARENCE 10-20-1890 - 3-27-1943
DAILY, ELSIE (KEPLER) 12-8-1896 10-16-1972
DAUGHTER of 11 & 12
- IV (44) KEPLER, WM B. 1-1-1899 5-1-1976
SON of 11 & 12
- IV (45) { SHOOK, PAUL MALCOLM 8-20-1900
SHOOK, FLORENCE (KEPLER) 11-10-1900
DAUGHTER of 11 & 12
- IV (46) { CULLOM, JAMES 7-31-1899 - 7-11-1868
CULLOM, BLANCHE (KEPLER) 1-31-1907 4-30-1965
DAUGHTER of 11 & 12
- IV (47) { KEENER, WM CARL 3-10-1893 1-11-1973
KEENER, FRANCES (KEPLER) 10-16-1909 12-15-1976
- IV (48) { HARING, WM JR. 6-5-1920 2-23-1973
SON of 37
HARING, ESTHER (RUHL) 7-4-1933
HARING, DIANA 5-4-1952 5-8-1952
DAUGHTER
- IV (49) KEPLER, EARL R. 8-30-1887
SON of SYLVESTER SON of 19 4YR. 22 DAYS
- V (50) KEPLER, ELTON 1926 1928-29
NO STONE SON of 42
- V (51) KEPLER, OTIS 8-21-1915 2-2-1964
SON of 41
KEPLER, EVAZELLE (BERRY) 1911
- V (52) CULLOM, JAMES 10-21-1931 8-24-1972
"GENTLEMAN JIM" SON of 46
- V (53) DAILY, CHARLES 1914 1980
SON of 43
- IV (54) NEAL, ALBERT A. 1888 1949
CAMERSON of 15
NEAL, GRACE M. 1890

- III (54) HARING, HIRAM 7-20-1847 3-30-1881
SON of 546 33YR. 8 mo. 10 DRS.
- (55) HARING, SARAH (SMITH) 9-17-1839 3-7-1904
WIFE of HIRAM
- IV (56) HARING, CELIA 2-26-1875 3-24-1902
DAUGHTER of 13
- V (57) HARING, EDITH 1-23-1889 7-11-1908
GRANDDAUGHTER of 13

JOHN KEPLER DESCENDENTS

- (1) WARNER, HENRY 8-5-1865
72YR. 11 mo. 20 DRS.
- II (2) WARNER, CATHERINE (KEPLER) 9-2-1872
DAUGHTER of JOHN KEPLER 1ST SETTLER 72YR. 1m. 6 DRS.
- II (2) KEPLER, JACOB 3-4-1886
SON of JOHN KEPLER 1ST SETTLER 83 YRS.
- TALLEST STONE IN CEMETERY
KEPLER, SUSAN (MARSH) 7-12-1887
77YR. 9mo. 25 DRS.
- II (3) KEPLER, ANDREW J. 2-14-1807 8-16-1871
SON of JOHN KEPLER 1ST SETTLER 67YR. 7mo. 2 DRS.
- SHOT BY SON-IN-LAW
KEPLER, ELIZABETH (TRITT) 1-8-1886
74YR. 10mo. 22 DRS.
- III (4) RININGER, SOLOMON 9-26-1830- 4-1-1870
RININGER, LOVINA (KEPLER) 10-27-1833- 10-30-1907
DAUGHTER of 2
- III (5) KEPLER, HOUSTON 8-25-1839 1920
SON of 2
KEPLER, CATHERINE (FOUST) 1839 1920
- III (6) WARNER, HARVEY 11-13-1873 1946
GRANDSON of 1
WARNER, MARGARET "MAGGIE" (HARING) 7-2-1877

John and Andrew Kepler's immediate descendents are given in Figures 2.15 and 2.16, with supplements from Beverly Coss in Figure 2.17. Footnotes are included on separate pages to indicate other spellings, dates, and general contradictions. Perrin and others report that John and a horse were killed while working a cider-press when a piece of the press broke off, this about 25 years after his moving to Ohio. He was buried in the graveyard on his brother Andrew's farm.

It is believed that the first white (non-Indian) grave in the township was that of Andrew's infant son Andrew in 1912, buried on Andrew's farm. Since no grave has been found for John's wife Magdalena, we presume she was buried with John in 1852 on Andrew's farm. These graves and any stones have all been lost.

Magdalena was Andrew's wife Mary's twin sister. Sisters marrying brothers was not uncommon in those days. Families intermarried extensively at that time and later marriages have frequently resulted in the children being related to the same ancestor through more than one line. Families that intermarried with the Keplers were Warner, Kintz, Haring, Bettler, Baughman, Marsh, Kraemer, Husselman, Semler, Foust, Rininger, Swigart, Smith, and Wise.

Magdalena and Mary came from an interesting family, initiated in Figure 2.18 by Frederick William Kraemer, a surgeon. For one thing, it appears that this Kraemer family had three sets of twins: Catherine and Andreas, John Phillip and Margaret, and Magdalena and Anna Mary. In terms of sisters marrying brothers, Magdalena and Anna Mary's older sister Elisabeth married Jacob Kepler, possibly the older brother of John and Andrew. (This is the reason the children are identified here.)

Another interesting facet of this family is the apparent policy, reported by Lucy Sloan (descendent of Margaret and Peter Buchtel), of naming all the girls with the same first name-- Anna. Clearly, they didn't all use this first name (if the policy is indeed true) and even the father Daniel in his will (Figure 2.19) uses their middle names to identify them. One interesting aspect of this will is his reference to John early in the will and then John Jacob, clearly a different person, later in the will. It appears that another policy may have been to name all the boys John as a first name, though Daniel doesn't specify the middle name of the "John" he initially speaks of. This John (Phillip) apparently used the name John rather than Phillip.

It is seen in Figure 2.18 that the Buchtel family also intermarried with the Kraemers. Lucy Sloan relates the following about her ancestor Peter Buchtel. When Andrew went back to Pennsylvania to bring his own family to Ohio, many other families also came with him, including Peter and Margaret's. When the War of 1812 broke out Andrew and Peter went but Peter did not return. It is believed he was killed by Indians or robbers on his way back to Green Township with his army pay, from nearby Fremont, Ohio.

Thus, Margaret was left a widow with 11 children and only one payment out of four made on the farm. Unable to make the payments and support her family, she sold the land and her belongings, Andrew Kepler being administrator. John Kepler bought the land and kept Peter's oldest living

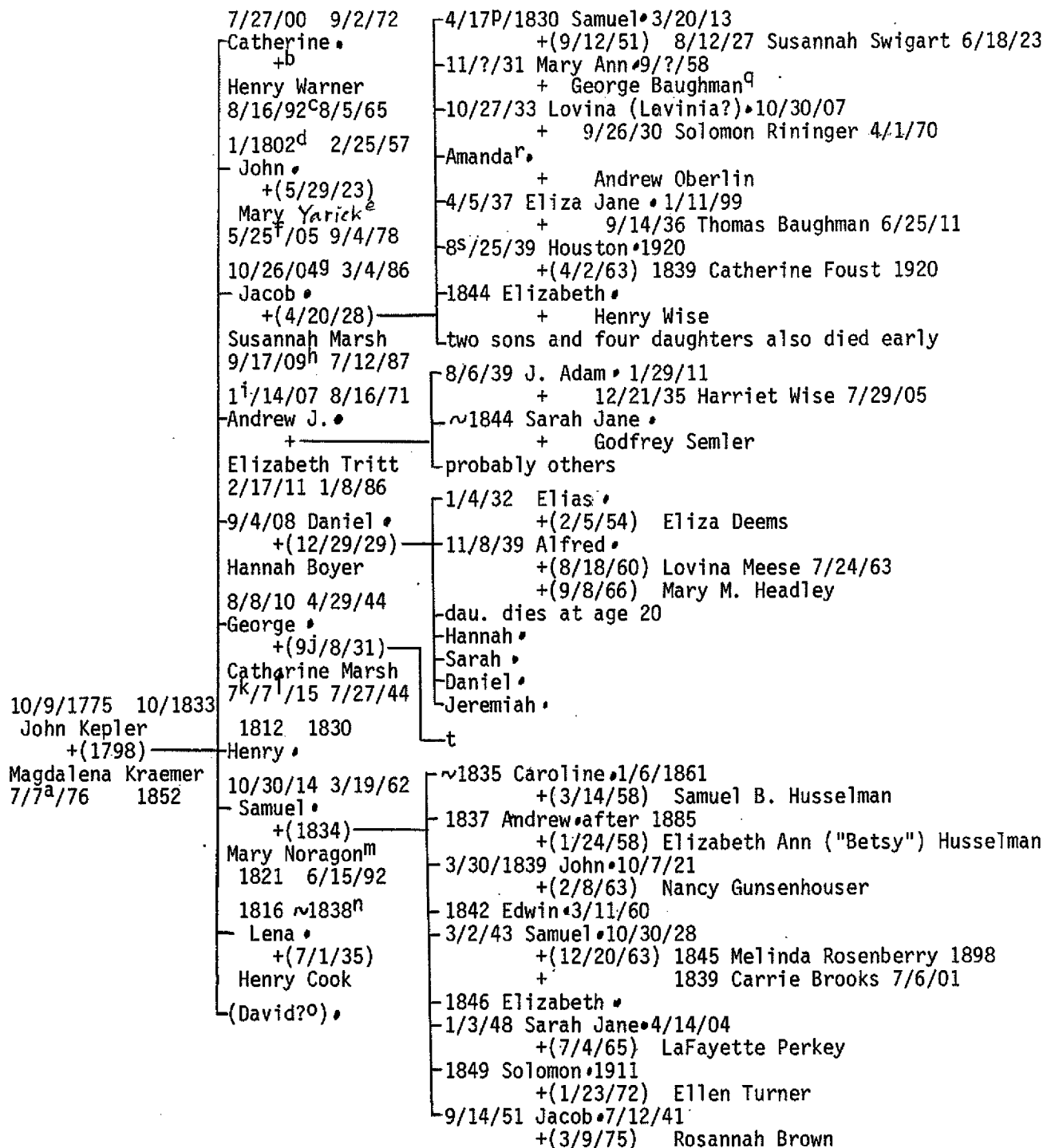


FIGURE 2.15 JOHN KEPLER'S DESCENDENTS

NOTES: (g- gravestone given as xxyears, ymonths, zzdays)

- a: 25 based on g- 75y,8m,17d; also cited as 12 sometimes
- b: a grandson is buried in East Liberty cemetery
- c: Based on g- 72y,11m,20d
- d: g states 55y,2m
- e: Also given as "Polly", and sometimes as Kintz
- f: Based on g- 73y,3m,11d; also given as 24
- g: g states 83 years old at death
- h: Also given as 1808; g- 77y,9m,25d
- i: Also given as 2; g- 64y,7m,2d
- j: Also given as 8; also as 12/29/29
- k: Also given as 8
- l: Also given as 5
- m: Name also given as Margaret and Morgan
- n: Supposedly died soon after marriage
- o: One source, Baughman, indicates this possible 10th child.
- p: Also given as 7
- q: Also given as Samuel Thornton
- r: Amanda may not belong at this order
- s: Also given as 4
- t: See Chapter 4 for all descendents

FIGURE 2.15 (CONT.)

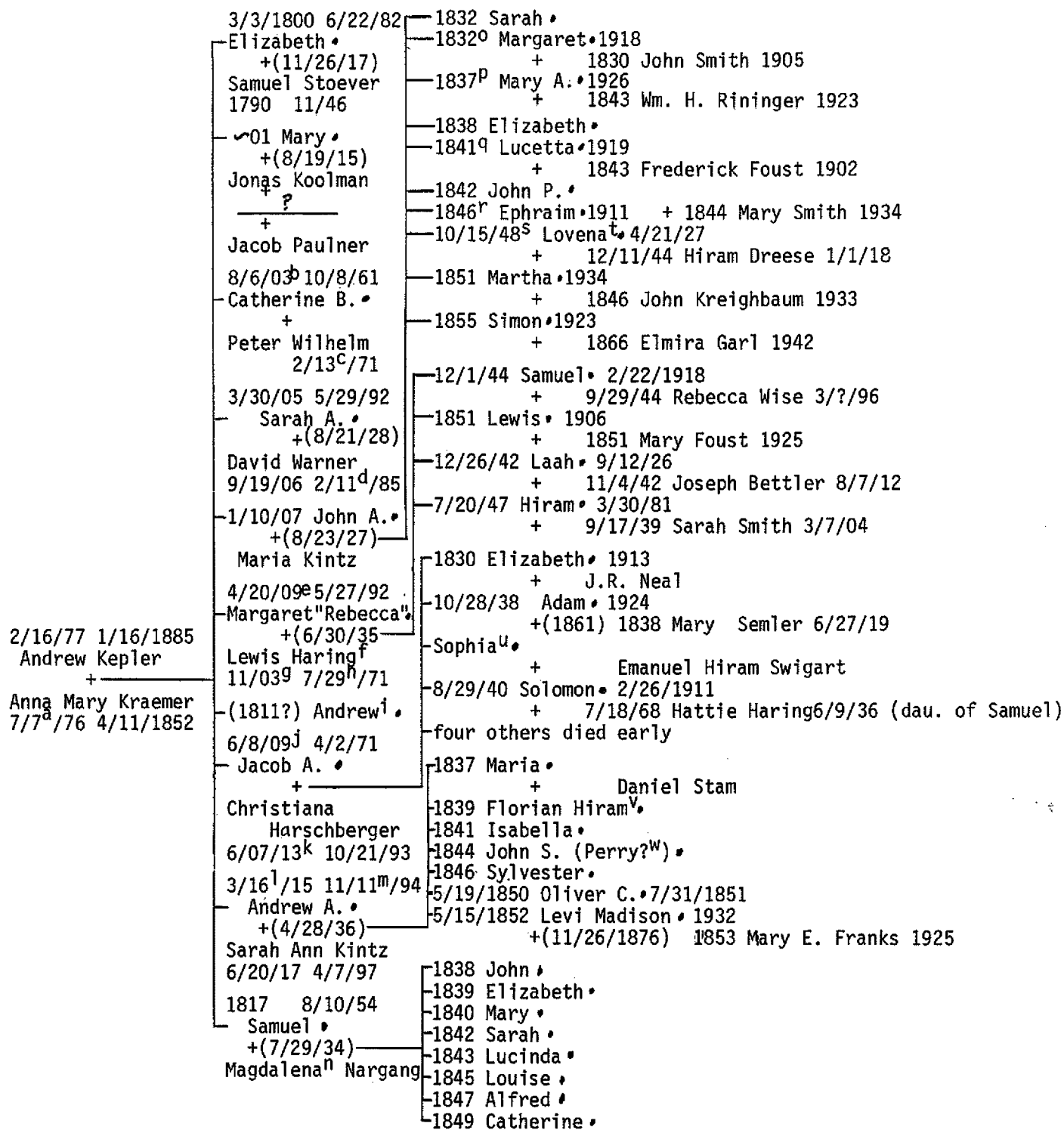


FIGURE 2.16 ANDREW KEPLER'S DESCENDENTS

NOTES:(g= gravestone given as xxyears, yymonths, zzdays)

- a: also given as 12
25 via g- 75y,8m,17d
- b: g- 7/2/00 but this
conflicts with Eliz.
birth date
- c: 13 from g., given
elsewhere as 15
- d: g gives as 3
- e: based on g as 83y,
1m,7d but given
elsewhere as 7/6/09
- f: Also Herring, Hering
- g: Also given as 1812
- h: Given elsewhere as
20
- i: Died as an infant
- j: Based on g of 61y,
9m, 25d but conflicts
with Margaret; given
elsewhere as 1812
- k: Based on g of 80y,
4m, 14d
- l: Given elsewhere as 15
- m: Given elsewhere as 1
- n: Also Margaret
- o: Also given as 1834
elsewhere
- p: Also given as 1836
- q: Also given as 1840
- r: Also given as 1844
- s: Also given as 1846
- t: Or Lovinia
- u: Order questionable
- v: Two different names
used; one a middle?
- w: Two different names
used

FIGURE 2.16 (CONT.)

P.O. Box 1
Greensburg, Ohio 44232
January 8, 1986

Mr. Jack Meredith
1062 Tahoe Terrace
Cincinnati, Ohio 45238

Dear Jack,

I checked the information I had on hand and found nothing further on the family of Sarah (Kepler) and David Warner. Monday I was able to contact Mrs. Blankenship who'd just returned from South Carolina where she spent the holiday with her son and children. She didn't have anything on that line either. So, having to get the car for another errand today, I took a trip to Akron and located Sarah's Estate Record, David's Will and Death Record, and numerous Marriage Records of their children. I hope it's not too late to be of use to you. Anyhow, you can add it to your own file.

Summit Co., O. Death Record, Vol. 1, p. 236 #214

Warner, David 1885 Feb. 3 78years-4months-15days died in Green Twp.
born in Penn. Male White Married Farmer Cause of death-Gangreen
resided in Green Twp.

I looked for, but did not locate Sarah's Death Record.

Summit Co., O. Estate Record, Case #5153, Wills Record Vol. 6, p. 535.

David Warner 1885 In David's will, he left the farm on which he resided to his wife (unnamed) which consisted of 89 80/100 acres in R.9 T.12 "Lot" (Section) 20. He also left to her \$300. and one horse and buggy. There may have been a bit more to it, but these were the things that stood out as I searched for the name of his wife and heirs. He appointed his son, John J. Warner the Executor of his last will and testament. The will is all I looked at of his estate record.

Summit Co., O. Estate Record, Case #6490.

Sarah Warner 1892

The Application for Letters of Administration gave the following:
resident of Green Twp., died on or about 29 May 1892, left no widower,
leaving her only heirs at law

J.J. Warner	son	Summit O.	
Andrew "	"	(Maxineudee, Ind.)	
Margaret Tritt	dau.	Manchester, O.	
Sarah Greenho	grand/dau.	Summit O.	
Libbie Rhodenbaugh	"	Manchester, O.	Children of Henry Warner
Henry Warner	grandson	Akron, O.	
Geneva Smith	granddau.	Summit, O.	
David Warner	grandson	Massillon, O.	Children of Samuel Warner
Sarah A. Snell	granddau.	Fulton, Mich.	
Sarah Myers	granddau.	Indiana	
William Semler	grandson	Nimisila, O.	
Louise Pisel	granddau.	Akron, O.	Children of Mary Semler
Norman Semler	grandson	Philadelphia, Pa.	
M(i)llie Pontious	granddau.	Summit, O.	

(there wasn't a dot over it, if it was "i")

The Account of final distribution clarified some of the names further, e.g. Sarah A. Greenho, Mrs. W. A. Rhodenbaugh, and Geneva A. Smith. I glanced through the inventory and sale bill and, for myself, was interested in the number of quilts and coverlets and comforters listed. Nearly everyone was purchased by relatives. One of the five quilts was listed as "Fancy Quilt" and brought \$2.05 from David Tritt. Some of the Names on the individual receipts included: David H. Warner, H.A. Warner, Andrew A. Warner, Mrs. (J)on Pisel, Sarah E. Myers, and Mary E. Rhodenbaugh. A. Sisler, M.D. received one for "medical service".

Summit Co., O. Marriage Records

1879 May 29 Semler Sarah E.-Allen S. Myers Vol. 3, p. 353
 1888 Apr. 17 Semler Lulu-John R. Pisel Vol. 6, p. 119
 1867 (No Return) Warner Margaret-David Tritt Vol. 1, p. 286 (Not there)
 1883 June 14 Warner Geneva A.-J.L. Smith Vol. 4, p. 329
 1858 Jan. 2(1) Warner Mary-Frederick J. Semler Vol. C, p. 40
 (This was read from the present Vol. C which consists of xeroxed pages from the original. Some of the writing is light or unclear.)
 1879 Nov. 13 Warner Sarah-John Greenho Vol. 3, p. 404
 1889 Nov. 24 Warner Mary E.-William A. Rhodenbaugh Vol. 6, p. 352
 1853 Oct. 1(2) Warner J.J.-Sarah Jane Fyfield Vol. B, p. 424
 1887 Mar. 6 Warner David H.-Susannah Koser Vol. 5, p. 376
 1854 Mar. 2 Warner Henry-Elizabeth Kreighbaum Vol. B, p. 469 She was 17 and her father, John Kreighbaum consented. (I'm not sure this belongs in this family.)

I had on hand at home information from several deeds which tie-in with this family.

Summit Co., O. Deed Records, Vol. 160, p. 154.

Sarah Greenho & John Greenho (hus & wf)
 Geneva Smith & John L. Smith " " } Grantors
 Henry A. Warner & Jennie Warner " " }
 with the grantee, Mary E. Warner, are all the children and heirs of
 Henry D. Warner Dec'd.
 \$1.00 part of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 17 in Green Twp. 16 Oct. 1888

Summit Co., O. Deed Records, Vol. 160, p. 195.

Sarah Greenho & John Greenho
 Geneva Smith & John L. Smith
 Henry A. Warner
 to

John J. Warner

\$900. W part of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 20 in Green Twp. 90 acres except 3 from an old school lot at NW corner of above described tract & said school lot now owned by Josept Bettler 1 Apr. 1886

Summit Co., O. Deed Records, Vol. 160, p. 513.

Elizabeth Warner
 Sarah Greenho & John Greenho
 Henry A. Warner & Jennie Warner
 Libbie Warner
 to

John L. Smith

\$75. 1 acre 31 Mar. 1888 in NW corner of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 17 in Green Twp. From Orestes H. Greenho's record of area deaths, I have a little more

to add to the marriage of Sarah Warner and John Greenho. John Greenho was born in 1857, died Nov. 5, 1945. I just checked my source on that again and it was from a book of newspaper obituaries in the possession of Mrs. Doris (Dickerhoof) Moore instead of Greenho's record. According to a book of deaths kept by the post masters in Greensburg, Sarah died Jan. 19, 1911 and, according to Greenho's record, her funeral was Jan. 22, 1911. Greenho made the notation "Aunt" by her name.

I have checked the 1860 Green Twp. Census and found the following:

#74	#74	Henry Warner	28	M	Farmer	Pers. Est. 726	Ohio
		Elizabeth "	28	F			"
		David "	3	M			"
		Sarah "	2	F			"
		Barbara "	11/12	F			"
		Lucinda Krieghbaum	21	F	Domestic		"
#133	#133	David Warner	53	M	Farmer	Real E. 9000	
		Sarah "	54	F		Pers. E. 6000	Penn.
		John Warner	23	M	Farmlaborer	Pers. E. 150	Ohio
		Sarah "	21	F			Married within the year Ohio
		Margaret "	15	F			Married within the year Ohio
		William "	3/12	M			Attended school within the year Ohio
		Hiram Foust	15	M	Farmlaborer		Ohio
							Attended school within the year

I'll let you make up your own family group chart on this bunch. I suspect the 1854 marriage of Henry Warner and Eliz. Krieghbaum DOES fit in, especially finding Lucinda Krieghbaum as a "domestic" in the above household. I wonder about the John Warner and Sarah Warner married within the year of the 1860 Census. This cannot be the 1853 marriage I found at the courthouse!

Well, I've got to take this to the post office, so I'll sign off.

Sincerely,

Bev

() ANDREW J. KEPLER FEB. 14, 1807 (1) PA. (5) 47 YRS. 7 MOS. 2 DA. 24 YRS. 17 DA. (5) AUG. 14, 1871 (2) EAST LIBERTY, OHIO (5) EAST LIBERTY CEMETERY		() ELIZA / ELIZABETH TRITT (1) JOSEPH TRITT (12) FEB. 16, 1811 (2) 1815-1816 (1) PA. (2) 74 YRS. 10 MOS. 23 DA. (3) JAN. 8, 1886 (3) EAST LIBERTY CEMETERY (PLATE) OTHER MARKS	
JOHN AND MADEALENA (CRAMER) KEPLER (WIFE)			
SHOT BY SON-IN-LAW. (3)			
BIRTH		DATE & PLACE OF DEATH	
SARAH JANE	OHIO 1812-13 (6)	MARRIED (1) MARRIED TO 1) MAY 1, 1862 GODFREY SEMLER 2) DEC. 31, 1876 (10) (11) FREDERICK GINDLING (and child)	DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH
JOE ADAM Lived and Buried (1)	OHIO AUG. 6, 1839 (3) PROB. BEFORE 1837 (4)	NOV. 6, 1862 (10) (11) HARRIET WISE	DEC. 21, 1835 (3) JULY 29, 1905 (3)
MARIAH	OHIO 1833-34 (6)		
CATHARINE	OHIO 1836-37 (6)		
LOVINA LIVED IN INDIANA (1)	OHIO 1844-45 (6)	(14) 1862 PETER CARL (13) (14)	
ELIZABETH	OHIO 1847-1848 (6)		

Fig. 2.17 (cont.)

(REFERENCES ON BACK)

- ① SHIRLEY EIKE.
- ② HISTORY OF SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO, WM. H. PERRIN, 1881. p. 598.
- ③ EAST LIBERTY CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS.
- ④ CLAYTON KEPLER. HE SAID JOE ADAM, HIS GRANDFATHER, HAD A BROTHER, PROBABLY OLDER THAN HE, WHO LIVED IN INDIANA. THIS BROTHER HAD A SON WHO WAS AN ATTORNEY AND A DAU. WHO MARRIED A _____ LIGHTKAE.
- ⑤ SUMMIT CO., O. DEATH REC. INDEX, p. 89.
- ⑥ 1850 CENSUS, GREEN TWP., SUMMIT CO., O.
- ⑦ 1870 CENSUS.
- ⑧ SUMMIT CO., O. MARR. REC. VOL. 2, p. 488.
- ⑨ FIFTY YEARS AND OVER OF AKRON AND SUMMIT COUNTY, BY EX-SHERIFF SAMUEL A. LANE. AKRON, OHIO: BEACON JOB DEPARTMENT. 1892. p. 804.
- ⑩ SUMMIT CO., OHIO MARRIAGE LICENSES 1840-1865, ED. GLADYS E. CHAMBERLAIN, 1932-1934. VOL. 2.
- ⑪ SUMMIT CO., O. MARR. REC., VOL. C, p. 275.
- ⑫ CAROL BOZAD. - TRITT FAMILY BIBLE.
- ⑬ SUMMIT CO., O. WILLS RECORD 3, p. 269 - ANDREW J. KEPLER.
"PETER CARL SHALL HAVE 1/2 SHARE BELONGING TO MY DAU. LOVINA"
- ⑭ SUMMIT CO., O. MARR. REC. VOL. C, p. 265. "KEPLER, LOVINA - PETER CARL"

ANDREW'S SON ANDREW A. KEPLER 1894 VOL. 9 p. 43 #6967

Booked at original
will 4/11/80 - of Green Township
WILLS RECORD 11, p. 323

son - Madison shall have all real estate in Green except Lots 12 & N. $\frac{1}{2}$ of
lot 13 in E. Liberty

daughters - Belle Ward - lot 12 & N. $\frac{1}{2}$ of lot 13

son - Sylvester S. Kepler - \$2000

son - Hiram Kepler 1000

daughters - Mariah Stamm 1000

daughters - Belle Ward 1000

son Madison 2000

son - John Kepler "shall not inherit or share in said real estate in any
sum of money or otherwise, as he has already received
money to the extent of his share."

signed 2 March 1894

JOHN'S SON ANDREW J. KEPLER 1871 VOL. 2 p. 17 #3522 REEL #10

WILLS RECORD 3, p. 201

WIDOW?

HEIRS? (NEED THESE)

Booked at original
will 4/11/86 - of Green Twp

son Joseph Adam Kepler

Peter Carl shall have $\frac{1}{2}$ share belonging to my daughter Lovina

signed 14 Aug. 1871

Summit Co. O.
Probate
4/24/81

Guard.

	KEPLER	MARY M	1-105	105	Feb. 1845	appt. Horizon sister Guardian - orphan ch. of Geo. Kepler of Coven try.
H.B. 2 p. 11	X	ALFRED	"	"	"	
233						
405	X	WILLIAM	"	"	"	
647-648		ADAM	1-106	106	"	Jacob Kepler ydwr. Orphan ch. of Geo. Kepler.
G.B. 1-194-197-198-199		SOLOMON	"	"	"	
1-561	X	SUSANNAH	1-107	107	"	Adam Marsh
2-202 203						
2-407		JOHN	1-409	409	Feb. 6, 1855	19 yrs
681 pp 197-200-201		ELIZABETH	"	"	"	16 yrs
1-502		MARY	"	"	"	14 yrs.
Heir of Samuel Kepler of Coven try		SARAH	"	"	"	12 yrs
A ydwr ydwr		LUCINDA	"	"	"	10 yrs
		LOUISA	"	"	"	9 yrs
Heir of Samuel Kepler Adam ydwr ydwr		ALFRED				7 yrs
		CATHARINE				5 yrs
		ANDREW JACKSON				3 yrs
		REBECCA				
Heir of John Kepler of Coven	John Shaffer ydwr	JOHN	1-496	496	May 4, 1857	16 yrs
	"	DIANNA	"	"	"	11 yrs
		JOHN W.	2-559	1075	Jan. 2, 1872	
		JOHN WILLIAM	2-612	1131	Apr. 7, 1873	
		JOHN W.	3-339	1488	Apr. 24, 1880	
		MARY M.	4-160	2001	Feb. 23, 1887	
		HENRY E.	4-372	2424	Oct. 5, 1895	

1-409 foll. recpts. in full:

Elizabeth Kepler now Elizabeth Stamm	24.40
Mary "	39.20
John "	39.20
Lucinda "	15.00

Andrew A. Kepler
 Check Andrew's b. 16 Mars. 1815, Green Tp. ①
 wt. Vol. 9, p. 43 d. 1 Nov. 1894, E. Liberty, ②
 # 6967 79 yrs. 7 mo. 15 d. ③
 bur. - East Liberty Cem. ④
 Will Rec. 11 son of Andrew & Mary (Cramer) Kepler ⑤
 p. 323 m. 28 Apr. 1836 ⑥ 20 Apr. 1836 ⑦
 Sarah Ann Kintz ⑧
 b. 20 June 1817, ⑨ d. 7 Apr. 1897 ⑩ aged 79 y. 9 m. 17 d. ⑪
 7 children ⑫
 Maria ⑬
 b. ⑭
 d. ⑮
 1 Mars. Rec. m. Daniel Stern ⑯ 1858 ⑰
 Hiram ⑱
 b. 1840 ⑲
 d. 1908 ⑳
 1 Mars. Rec. m. Malinda Cooney, 1844-1910 ㉑
 Malinda C. ㉒
 Isabella ㉓
 b. ㉔
 d. ㉕
 m. 3 Aug. 1854 ㉖ Thomas E. Ward ㉗
 John Perry Paul see pension record from Nat'l. Archives. ㉘
 b. ㉙
 d. ㉚
 m. Emily A. Harten ㉛ 29 Sept. 1867 ㉜
 Sylvester ㉝
 b. 1849 ㉞
 d. 1920 ㉟
 m. Nancy J. Kreighbaum ㊱ 27 June 1868 ㊲
 Oliver C. ㊳
 b. ㊴
 d. in infancy ㊵
 Levi Madison ㊶
 b. 15 May 1852, 2 of E. Lib. ㊷
 d. 1932 ㊸
 m. 26 Nov. 1876, Mary E. Frank ㊹ 1853-1925 ㊺
 ㊻ Perrine, p. 989.
 ㊼ Akron Beacon & Rep., 11/3/1894
 ㊽ East Liberty Cem. inscription
 ㊾ Summit Co. O. Death Rec.
 ㊿ Andrew Kepler Estate # 658 (Sum. Co., O.)
 ㊿ Wayne Co. O. Mars. Rec. 1812-1865 Vol. III
 ㊿ O. Green's Funeral Book p. 37
 ㊿ 1850 Census, Sum. Co., O., Green Tp.
 ㊿ Summit Co. Mars. Rec. 3-64, C-48
 ㊿ Ellendale Cem. Inscription
 ㊿ Will Rec. 20-554, Summit Co., O.
 ㊿ Will recorded 8 Dec. 1908
 ㊿ Summit Co. Mars. Rec. C-293
 ㊿ Summit Co. Mars. Rec. 4-499
 ㊿ Summit Co. Mars. Rec. 1-283
 ㊿ Lakewood Cem. Inscription
 ㊿ Summit Co. Mars. Rec. 1-377

Kepler Family
Summit Co.
Courthouse

Deed Heirs of John Kepler To Mary Kepler (his widow)
Record W. half of E. half of Sec. 17. (less 20 acres)
32-567- SW quarter of Sec. 17
568. SW quarter of NE quarter of Sec 18
56 acres in S half of Sec 18
Homestead - E. half of NW quarter of Sec. 19
W. half of SE quarter of Sec 19. (less 16 a.)
Heirs: Mary A. Thornton & husband Samuel Thornton
Elizabeth Thursby & " Henry Thursby
Lewis Kepler
Catharine Shafer & " Samuel Shafer
Matilda Shafer & " John Shafer
Abraham Kepler
Lovina Kepler
John Shaffer Guardian for
John & Diana Kepler - minor heirs
Signed May 2, 1857 Recorded July 10, 1857

36-54 John & Polly Kepler To School directors of district no. 9 in
Green Twp.
In Sec. 17
Beg. at SW corner of Sec. 17 thence running east
3 rods north 3 rods west three rods & south
3 rods to place of beg. - 9 rods of land
Signed Jan. 6, 1841 Recorded Jan. 14, 1858

Akron 4
10-25-83

Fig. 2.17 (cont.)

Feb. 23, 1916 ^{AST} Man Drops Dead in Falls Store
Well Known Farmer of Munroe Falls Stricken Suddenly
7:1

Cuyahoga Falls, Feb. 23. — While J. P. Kepler, 71, a prominent retired farmer in the vicinity of Munroe Falls, stood talking to his son-in-law, G. R. Dixon, in the latter's general store in Munroe Falls, late Tuesday afternoon, he suddenly dropped to the floor. Before medical attention arrived, he was dead.

Kepler was one of the most well known men in Cuyahoga Falls and its neighboring village, Munroe Falls. He owned considerable land about the latter place, and was keenly interested in all farm welfare movements.

He remarked as he stepped into ^{Dixon's} the store, that he did not feel well. Dr. B. T. Keller, who was summoned, said Kepler had died from apoplexy.

Kepler enlisted in the army at ^{the} age of 17 when he was living at East Liberty, this county, and was in Co. I., 115th volunteer infantry. He had lived at Munroe Falls for 40 years. He is survived by a wife, five sons and a daughter. He was a member of the G. A. R. and K. of P. The funeral will be Friday at 1 p. m., at the home.

(This is John Paul Kepler, son of Andrew A. & Sarah Kintz Kepler.)
I don't know if you have all his dates, etc., so here they are:

b. 20 Oct. 1844, E. Liberty, O.

d. 22 Feb. 1916, Munroe Falls, O.

m. 29 Sept. 1867 at (Manchester) Minerva, Summit Co. O. by Rev. John W. Ham.

Emily Alice Harter, dau. of Andrew & Harriet (Hunsberger) Harter

b. — d. 28 Mar. 1922

At time of military enlistment, John was 5'7" dark complexion, grey eyes, light hair, farmer. As a result of measles while in the army, he was left nearly total deafness in the (L) ear & slight deafness in the (R).

HARTER HISTORY by Mary Harter, 1965, p. 40 gives Emily's parents' names. All the other info. about is in Pension Cert. No. 806834 (widow) Emily A. Kepler at Nat'l. Archives.

3. KEPLER, JOHN M.
 [POLLY YARICK MAY 29 1825
 NATIONAL WATER] (18)
 MARY/POLLY (19)

JOHN KEPLER, JR.
 1804 (1)

AA

FEB. 25, 1857
 AGED 55Y. 2M. (2)
 E. LIBERTY CEM.

SEP. 4, [1878] AGED 73Y 3M 11D (2)
 E. LIBERTY CEM. (2)
 1805-1806 (3)

JOHN KEPLER JUNR. BOUGHT E 1/2 OF NE 1/4 OF SEC. 19 IN GREEN TWP. STATE CO. (NOW SUMMIT CO.) O., FROM GOVERNMENT (THAMES MOORE, PRES.) SIGNED DEED 20 OCT. 1824. (4) THIS WAS CONSIDERED "THE OLD HOMESTEAD" AFTER JOHN DIED & WAS ASSIGNED ALONG WITH W 1/2 OF SE 1/4 SEC. 19 LESS 16 ACRES TO HIS WIDOW, MARY. (5) THE OLD HOMESTEAD, CONSISTING OF 82 3/4 ACRES & WATER PRIVILEGES, WAS SOLD FOR \$6576 TO LEWIS A. HARRING IN A DEED SIGNED 31 MAR. 1880, RECORDED 14 MAY 1880, APPARENTLY AFTER MARY DIED. (6) JOHN KEPLER'S ESTATE # 781, MACCORMICK # 5, ON FILE AT SUMMIT CO. O. COURTHOUSE.

JOHN & MAGDALENA (CRAMER) KEPLER

REMARKS: JOHN & POLLY SOLD 9 RODS OF LAND TO SCHOOL. (15) DIRECTORS OF DISTRICT # 9, GREEN TWP. IN SW CORNER OF SEC. 17.

* MARY ANN 8/11/1827 (7) 1/5/1910 (18)

* ELIZABETH

* LEWIS 1830 (1)

* CATHARINE ? (1832) (1)

* MATILDA 1835 (1)

* ABRAHAM/ABRAHAM (17) 1837 (1)

* LOVINA 1838 (1)

* JOHN W. 1841 (1)

* DIANA 1846 (1)

SUMMIT CO. O. (14) (18)
 APR. 13, 1845 SAMUEL THORNTON 7/18/1824 (8) (7) 7/15/1877 (18)
 SUMMIT CO. O. (1)

(A) MAR. 23, 1848 HENRY THURSBY (14) 2 (1825)
 MATILDA ? [STANINGER] (17)

(B) APR. 29, 1849 SAMUEL SHAFER 2 (1821) (1)

(C) APR. 21, 1853 JOHN SHAFER 2 (1813) (17)

30 SEPT. 1855 CATHARINE MILLER (13)

JAN. 13, 1859 HENRY F. RITTER (16)

? [LEAH GARL] (16)

DANIEL MILLER 1862 (13)

(16) HEIRS OF JOHN KEPLER LISTED IN DEED RECORD VOL. 32 PAGES 547-548
 SUMMIT CO. O. COURTHOUSE AKRON O.

SUMMIT CO. O. COURTHOUSE, AKRON, O.
 (14) VOL. A, PAGE 511 - MARRIAGE RECORDS
 (16) VOL. A, PAGE 586 -

(1) 1850 CLINCH, GREEN TWP.
 SUMMIT CO. O.
 (3) E. LIBERTY CEM.
 INSCRIPTIONS

Q. 97

B. p. 121.

⑫ SUMMIT CO. O. MAIL REC. VOL. B, P. 121.
⑬ SUMMIT CO. O. ZILLD REC. VOL. 183 P. 36

" " "
MILK. REC., VOL. C, P. 248.

① THE ANCESTORS & DESCENDANTS OF ELIAS THORNTON OF
SNYDER CO., PA. & ELKHART CO. INDIANA 1837-1899
(FROM SHEET SENT TO LUCY SLOAN BY MRS. O. E. MILLER. LUCY
SENT SHEET TO ME. 80)

⑧  ARROW & SUMMIT COUNTY, BY KARL H. GRISMER

14 SUMMIT CO. OHIO MARRIAGE LICENSES 1840-1865, ED. GLADYS E.

"KEPLER, JERVIS-MATILDA STANDARD FEB. 24, 1853
CUMMINGTON 1782-1787, VOL. 2, -K 1,
CUMMINGTON 1782-1787, VOL. 2, -K 1,

JOHN W. HAMM, M.

"1853 KEPLER LEWIS - MATILDA STWINGER VOL. B, p. 349."

I THINK SOMEONE MISREAD "LEWIS" FOR "JERVIS."

(15) SUMMIT CO., O. DEED BOOK VOL. 36, P. 54. SIGNED TAN. 4. 1841.

IN THE NW CORNER OF THE NW 1/4 SEC. 20. THE BACK ONE

KEYSTONE WAS USED FOR FUEL STORAGE UNTIL SPRING, 1975.

① SUBJECT CO. O. MARG. RES. INDEX, VOL. 2, A-337.
WHEN THE BUILDING COLLAPSED.

"1861 KEPPLE, JOHN - LETH GARD."

LEAH GARL OCT. 24, 1861 JOHN W. HANM, M.

1880 CENSUS, GREEN TWP., SUMMIT CO., O. - LEAH CARL 18
 DOMESTIC BORN - OHIO - LISTED WITH SHAREEFS FAMILY

JOHN SHAFER WAS GUARDIAN OF JOHN & DIANA REPLER,

SUMMIT CO. O. MARE. REC. INDEX, VOL. B, P. 639. - "1855.

SHAW-BEELIN'S SUMMIT CO. O. MAPS, LICENSES -

JOHN W. HHHH ALSO MARRIED ELIZABETH, CYNTHIA, MARYLON,
AND LOVINA KEPLER.

RECORDS OF STOKER CO. O., 1908-1965.

SUMMIT CO. O. DEED REC. VOL. 38 P. 459. MAGDALENA KEPLER

IT WAS SIGNED "JOHN KEPLER JR. & KEPLER & POLLY, HIS WIFE." MARY KEPLER.

KEPLER + FOOT, AND
"MARRY KEPLER."

57

1850 CENSUS

CEX Form 1850

LOCAL COMMUNITY
or SUB-COUNTY UNIT Green Twnshp COUNTY Summit STATE Ohio

LOG# _____ S# _____

Enumerator Dist. No. 14Page Number 15ENUMERATOR _____ ENUMERATOR DATE (printed) _____ Supervisor Dist. No. L. M. James Date Census Taken 21 Nov 1850Legibility of record: Good Fair PoorType: Original Extract Microfilm ☒ Printed

Dwelling House Numbered in order of visitation	Family numbered in the order of visitation	The name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family	Description			Profession, Occupation or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age	Value of Real Estate owned	Place of Birth naming the State, Territory or Country	Married within the year	Attended school within the year	Persons over 20 unable to read & write	Whether deaf & dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper or convict
			Age	Sex	COLOR							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	36	John Kepler	48	M	W	Farmer	9200	Penn				
		Mary	44	F	W			Penn				
		Matilda	15	F	W			Ohio		yes		
		Lavina	12	F	W			"		"		
		David	4	M	W			"				
		Lewis	20	M	W	Farmer		"		"		
		Abraham	13	M	W			"		"		
		John	9	M	W			"		"		
31	54	Andrew Kepler	75	M	W	Farmer	8750	Penn				
		Mariah	75	F	W			"				

Fig 2.17 (cont.)

NAME IN FULL	CATHARINE KEPLER		
BORN	AUG. 6, 1803	①	(GRADE) CENTRE CO. PA.
DATE		②	(PLAGE)
DIED	OCT. 4, 1866		
BURIED AT	EAST LIBERTY CEMETERY, E. LIBERTY, O.		
WHERE EDUCATED			

CHURCH AFFILIATION
SON OR DAU. OF ANDREW & MARY (CRAMER) KEPLER

MARRIED (DATE)	AT (PLACE)	ST. ... OTHER MARRIAGES

[illegible]

ANDREW	③	CHIO ⑤	1827	②
--------	---	--------	------	---

③	CATHARINE	③	OHIO	⑤	OHIO 1836	②
---	-----------	---	------	---	-----------	---

ABRAHAM	1833	1892
SARAH M.	1836	1892

③	HIRAM	OHIO ⑤	1843
④		OHIO ③	

MARGARET	1829	UNITED STATES
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[illegible]

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③ SUMMIT CO. DEED REC., VOL. 60, p. 558

- ④ SUMMIT CO. O MARRIAGE LICENSES 1840-1865, AKRON PUB. LIB.
- ⑤ 1860 CENSUS, SUMMIT CO. O. GREEN TWP.
- ⑥ NOT LISTED WITH PETER & CATHERINE IN 1860 CENSUS
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JOHN KEPLER
MAGDALENA CRAMER

ADAM WARNER

↓
① CATHERINE ELIZABETH KEPLER m. HENRY J. WARNER

↓
ADAM K. WARNER
ELIZABETH RENNINGER

↓
HENRY R. WARNER
MARY ELLEN BOWER(S)

↓
AARON EARNEST WARNER "BOUNCE"
ELLA B. WARNER

②
↓
GRACE ALMEDA WARNER
ROLAND FREDERICK CORMANY

① CATHERINE, INTERMARRIED TO HENRY WARNER - LISTED AS HEIR
OF JOHN KEPLER IN STARK CO., O. CLERK OF COURTS RECORD
K - p. 364 APRIL TERM 1835.

② SUMMIT CO., O. MARR. REC. 36, p. 495 - ALMEDA WARNER
+ ROLAND CORMANY - GIVES HER PARENTS' NAMES.

(My note: I prepared this outline to show how a former elemen-
tary teacher at Greensburg, Mrs. Almeda Cormany, was related
to the Keplers. Her son, Roland, used to be the Green Twp. clerk of
trustees. Her daughter, Clara, is single and works at The Hoover
Co. in N. Canton. The reference ① seems to shoot down the lineage
presented by Frank Roy Kepler.)

Questionable (4M)

IDENTITY OF KATHERINE ELIZABETH KEPLER WHO MARRIED HENRY WARNER
together with some of their descendants
Contributed by Frank Roy Kepler of Detroit, Mich.

The identity of the fourth child and second daughter of PETER & ELIZABETH KEPLER of Erie and Crawford counties, Pa. was unknown to this searcher until recently.

Through the efforts of MRS. RAYMOND C. WARNER, nee LOIS C. RUMBAUGH, of Akron, Oh. who on a summer automobile jaunt called on MR. RALPH SHREVE, a descendant of PETER KEPLER, the identity was made. He showed her a copy of the writer's "PETER KEPLER FAMILY of Erie and Crawford counties Pa." and MRS WARNER was able to identify this daughter as KATHERINE ELIZABETH and to supply important facts concerning some of her descendants. These data are based on death certificates, tombstone inscriptions, censuses, family records and some other sources.

This additional family history, then, is continued from "THE PETER KEPLER FAMILY OF ERIE AND CRAWFORD COUNTIES, PA." by FRANK ROY KEPLER in the DETROIT SOCIETY FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH MAGAZINE, Oct. 1952, Vol. XVI, No. 1, page 10, "5 iv. Daughter, b. 1799/1800" but would properly be inserted in that part of the issue of Feb. 1953, Vol. XVI, No. 3, pg. 64 after the account of "4, Margaret(2) Kepler, b. Mar. 17, 1798." The style and numeration used in this early history will be continued as nearly as possible in this presentation.

5. KATHERINE ELIZABETH KEPLER(2), fourth child of PETER (1) KEPLER AND ELIZABETH--- is believed to have been born on July 28, 1800 (tombstone inscription) in Lebeuf twp., Erie co., Pa.; m. HENRY WARNER; formerly of Maryland, b. June 15, 1792 and died Aug. 5, 1865. KATHERINE ELIZABETH died Sept. 2, 1872. Both died in Coventry twp., Summit Co., Oh. where they lived and reared a family of eight sons. Burials are in East Liberty, Oh.

Note that the actual birthdate of KATHERINE is in question. On the death certificate of SOLOMON WARNER, her son, it is stated that his father's name was HENRY WARNER, successively a resident of Maryland, Pa. and Oh. and that he was born June 15, 1792 and died Aug. 5, 1865; and his mother's name was KATHERINE ELIZABETH KEPLER, born July 27, 1799 and died Sept. 2, 1872 in Ohio; ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ The information certificate was signed by M. H. WARNER of East Akron, Oh.; his relationship not established. In L.F. ALLEN, Genealogy and History of the Shreve Family (Greenfield, Ill., privately printed, 1901), it states that KATHERINE was born July 28, 1799 and that her sister, MARGARET was born Mar. 17, 1799 (another source gives Margaret's birth as Mar. 17, 1798). The 1800 Federal census of Union twp., ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Erie Co., Pa. lists two females under ten years of age in the PETER KEPLER Family. This enumeration "was to begin on the first Monday in Aug. 1800 and to end within 9 months." As neither of these sources can disclose whether the year was 1799 or 1800 it would seem that the tombstone inscription probably contains the correct date.

Children of KATHERINE ELIZABETH(2) (Kepler) and HENRY WARNER, all born in Coventry twp., Summit Co., Oh.

- 40.1 i JOHN(3) WARNER, b. Mar. 1, 1821, d. Mar. 3, 1903; m. ELIZABETH -----, b. 1824, d. 1905.
- 40.2 ii ADAM WARNER(3), b. Jan. 15, 1824, d. Jan. 14, 1895; m. ELIZABETH RENINGER, b. Dec. 2, 1805, d. June 26, 1892.
- 40.3 iii JACOB (3) WARNER, b. Oct. 15, 1826; d. Apr. 8, 1912; m. SARAH A. KREIGHTBAUM, b. July 15, 1837, d. Jan. 24, 1909.
- 40.4 iv WILLIAM H. (3) WARNER, b. 1828, d. 1913; m. MELISSA JANE CREWSTON, b. 1844, d. 1907, buried in Burock Cem., Burock, Marshall Co., Ind.

Fig. 2, 17 (cont.)

KEPLER FAMILY, pg.2

THORNTON, b. Nov. 30, 1833 in Sunbury, Northumberland Co., Pa.,
d. Apr. 30, 1900 in Franklin twp., Summit Co., Oh.; burials in
East Liberty Cem.

- 40.6 vi ABRAHAM (3) WARNER, b. Oct. 25, 1833, d. Apr. 25, 1900; m 1st,
FANNY THORNTON who died Feb. 8, 1862; m. 2nd, JULIA ANN
~~XXXXXX~~ JANETT.
- 40.7 vii SOLOMON (3) WARNER, b. June 22, 1836, d. Dec. 8, 1933, ae. 97y 5m
16d; m. MATILDA RITTER, b. Dec. 29, 1838, d. Apr. 24, 1888.
- 40.8 viii Daniel (3) WARNER, b. March 15, 1839, d. Mar. 25, 1898; m. ELLEN
XSOURS, b. Nov. 14 or Dec. 24, 1840, d. Oct. 7, 1865, ae. 24y 11m
24d.

40.5 SAMUEL (3) WARNER, fifth son of HENRY WARNER & KATHERINE ELIZABETH
(2)(PETER(1)) KEPLER, was born Jan. 24, 1831 in Coventry twp.
SUMMIT CO., OH.; d. June 18, 1910. He married Sarah(5) (SAMUEL⁴, JOHN³,
JOHN², John¹) THORNTON, b. Nov. 30, 1833 in Sunbury, Northumberland Co.,
Pa. She died Apr. 30, 1900 in Franklin twp., Summit Co., Oh. Burials are
in East Liberty Cem. at East Liberty, Oh.

Children of ~~XXXXXX~~ SAMUEL³ and SARAH (THORNTON) WARNER;

- 40.9 i FRONED⁴ WARNER, b. July 28, 1855, d. Dec. 1, 1855
- 40.11 ii CATHERINE⁴ WARNER, b. Dec. 27, 1855, (sic), d. Jan. 24, 1861
- 40.11 iii HARRIET⁴ WARNER, b. Apr. 13, 1859, d. May 3, 1938 in Akron, Oh.
She was unmarried, Burial was in East Liberty Cem.
- 40.12 iv MARY ANN⁴ WARNER, b. July 21, 1861; m/1 William OBERHOLTZ; m/2
HENRY HAUFF, b. June 21, 1864.
- 40.13 v ELLEN⁴ WARNER, b. Oct. 25, 1863, d. July 9, 1924; m. GRANT STAHL.
- 40.14 vi WILLIAM H.⁴ WARNER, b. Jan. 18, 1865, d. Oct. 29, 1950; Burial in
Mt. Hope Cem. in Akron, Oh.; m. LYDIA ANN JUFF, b. Lan-
caster Co., Pa., Sept. 25, 18--, d. Feb. 21, 1928 in Akron, O.--
- 40.15 vii FRANKLIN⁴ WARNER, b. July 28, 1867, d. Nov. 27, 1948, m. BESSIE
CARMONY, d. July 28, 1925; burial Kiser Cem., Manchester,
* ?Grant Co., Oh.
- 40.16 viii MARTHA⁴ WARNER, b. Apr. 3, 1871, d. Nov. 11, 1948, m. HENRY REX,
b. Dec. 11, 1873, d. May 11, 1956.

* As is in the history of the family found in the "Detroit Society
for Genealogical Research Magazine, Spring 1969. ~~XXXX~~. Detroit Mich.

pg. 107-108

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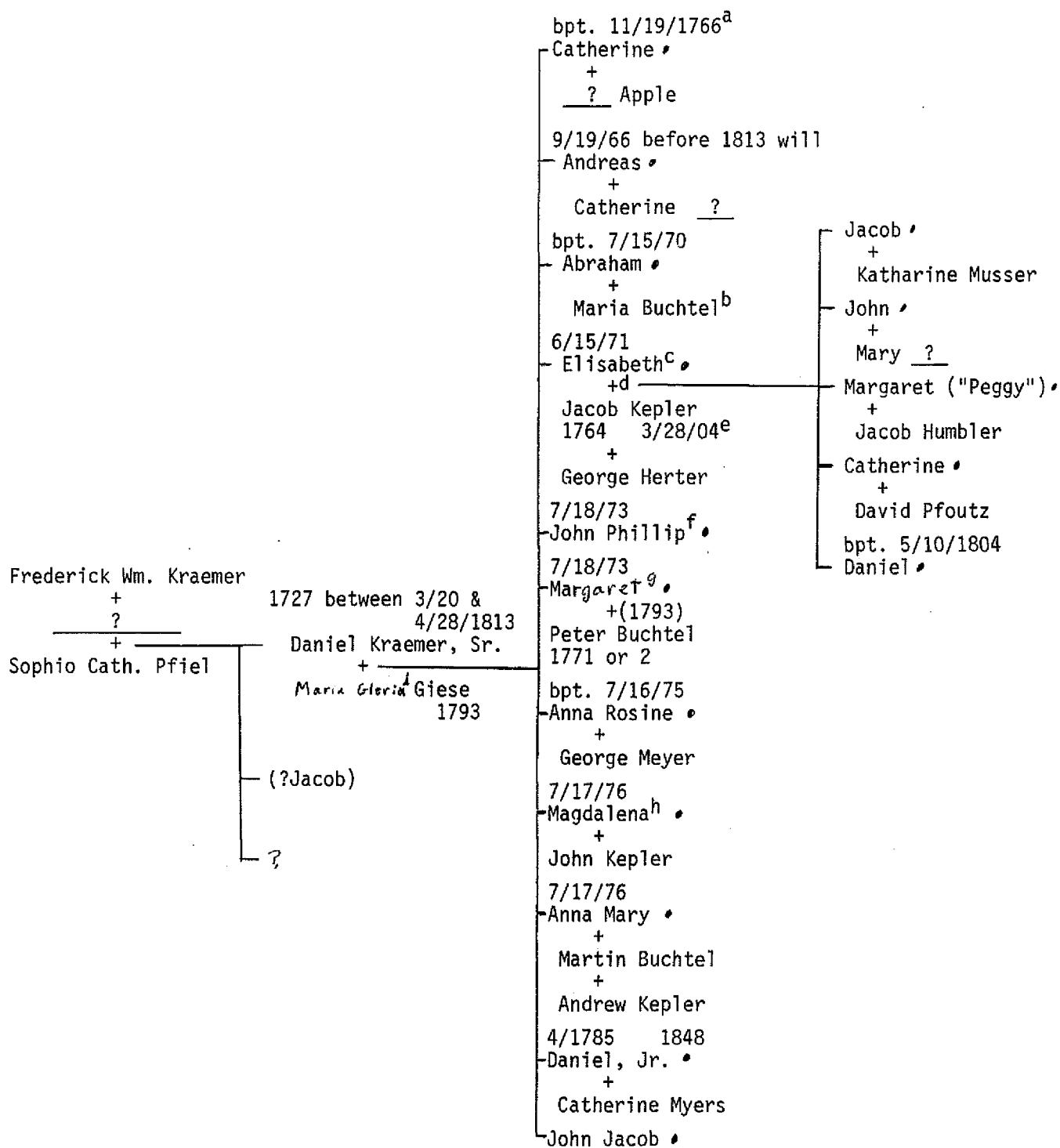


FIGURE 2.18 THE KRAEMER FAMILY CHART

NOTES:

- a: Catherine was apparently a twin to Andreas. He had apparently died by the time of Daniel Sr.'s will.
- b: Originally spelled Baughtel, possibly a sister of Peter.
- c: Originally spelled Elizabeth
- d: Who this Jacob Kepler is is not known. The probate however lists John Kepler as one of the witnesses and Jacob Sicheley as taking inventory. John Kepler's sister Susan married a Nicholas Sicheley (also Stickney, Stickley). Thus, this may be John and Susan Kepler's brother.
- e: Also given as 11/1803.
- f: A twin to Margaret.
- g: Originally spelled Margareth.
- h: Originally spelled Magdaline. A twin to Anna Mary.
- i: Also given as Anna Maria.

FIGURE 2.18 (CONT.)

FIGURE 2.19 DANIEL KRAMER'S WILL

Last will & Testament In the name of god amen. I Daniel Kramer of the Township
 63 of Haines in the County of Kent and State of Pennsylvania being
 Daniel Kramer very sick and weak in body but of sound mind memory and
 understanding called be god for the same to make and publish
 this my last will and Testament in manner and form following to wit. Principally
 and first of all I commend my immortal soul into the hands of god who gave it and
 my body to the earth to be buried in a decent and Christian like manner at the
 discretion of my executors hereinafter named and as to such worldly estate where with it
 hath pleased god to bless me in this life I give and dispose of the same in the following
 manner to wit First it is my will and I do order that all my just debt and funeral
 charges be duly paid and satisfied as soon as conveniently can be after my decease
 and that I have purchased for my account one Section of land in the State of Ohio
 and bequeath the same in the following manner I give and bequeath the unto my son Abraham
 Kramer one Quarter Section thereof the same on which he now resides subject to the
 payment of one hundred and forty dollars to my Executors hereinafter named in manner
 following viz forty dollars thereof to be paid by them his heirs Executors or administrators
 two years after the date of my decease and on the date of the said day every year
 following the sum of forty dollars until the said sum of one hundred & forty dollars
 will be fully paid and after said payments to have and to hold the said Quarter Section
 unto him my said son Abraham Kramer his heirs and assigns. I give and bequeath
 unto my son John Kramer of Potter Township in the County of Kent one other Quarter
 Section of said lands as yet unoccupied. Subject to the payment of one hundred and sixty
 dollars payable in the same manner and terms above mentioned to be made by my
 son Abraham and after the said payments have been made to hold the same unto
 the said John Kramer his heirs and assigns forever. I give and bequeath unto

daughter Christine Kraemer now Rosine Meyer one other Quarter section of said land
 on which she resides, subject to the payment of one hundred and sixty dollars, payable
 in the same manner and time as above mentioned to be made by son Abraham, or
 also subject to the payment unto my Executor herein after mentioned of seventy dollars
 cash. I paid to her husband my son in law George Meyer when he moved to the
 State of Ohio also to the payment of five pounds for a wagon I did give him and the
 payment of eight pounds (all Pennsylvania currency) which I paid for him to Pa.
 Wolf for a horse after said payments made to hold the same unto the said Rosine Meyer
 her heirs and assigns. I give and bequeath unto my son Daniel Kraemer the common
 Quarter section of said land on which the said Daniel Kraemer now resides (and
 which by an agreement between him and me I do give in possession of Jacob Meyer
 said Kraemer Township I made over to him) Subject to the payment unto my executor
 herein after named of one hundred dollars and thirty three cents which I paid to
 him when he moved to the State of Ohio also to the payment of forty pounds Penn-
 sylvania currency for a wagon I sold him also to the payment of sixty dollars for
 a horse I sold him also to the payment of eight dollars for a gift I sold him a bed
 also to the payment of sixteen dollars for a cow. I sold them after said payment made
 hold the S. Quarter section to him his heirs and assigns forever. I also give and bequeath
 unto my son John Kraemer my black horse. I give and bequeath the same to my grand
 child Betty Brantle the daughter of my daughter Mary now Mary Meyer the
 sum of thirty four dollars. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Kraemer
 now Elizabeth Hester my beds and bedding and other articles belonging to me now and
 possession of Philip Meyer and Jacob Brungart in Meigs township Carter County
 N. except my share, horses and Arks which I give and bequeath unto my grand child

FIGURE 2.19 (CONT.)

My daughter of my said daughter Elizabeth Wether and as touching all the
est residue and remainder of my estate real and personal of what kind or nature
soever the same may be in the said County of Centre or elsewhere I give and devise the
in the following manner the same shall be divided between my two children who have
not received Land nor my daughter Catherine now Catharine Apple of the State of Ohio
my daughter Elizabeth now Elizabeth Wether of Haines Township my daughter Margaret
now Margaret Buchele of the State of Ohio my daughter Mary now Mary Fisher
of the State of Ohio my daughter Magdalena now Magdalena Fisher of the State of Ohio
and my son John Jacob Kraemer of the State of Ohio until each of them shall have received
the sum of one hundred and sixty dollars if each share will come to so much but in
case more than one hundred and sixty dollars should come to each of them share then in
such case the surplus shall be divided between all my children equally to be
divided between them And lastly I nominate constitute and appoint my son in
law John Wether and my beloved friend Jacob Snyder both of said Township of Haines
to be the Executors of this my will hereby revoking all other wills legacies and bequests
by me heretofore made and declaring this and no other to be my last will and testament
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 20th day of March A.D. 1813
Daniel O. Kraemer

Signed, sealed, published pronounced and declared by the said testator as his
last will & testament in the presence of us who in his presence and at his request have subscribed
as Witnesses J. O. M. Bruch Jacob Kraemer

Centre County ss, Before me William Etchem Register for the probate of wills and granting
Letters of administration in and for the County aforesaid came Jacob Kraemer one of the
Subscribing witnesses to the above and foregoing instrument of writing and on us sworn
that he was lawfully his

FIGURE 2.19 (CONT.)

with Daniel Kraemer in the foregoing instrument of writing named and now deceased and saw him sign and seal and heard him publish and declare the foregoing instrument of writing as due for his last will and testament that at the same time.

The said Daniel Kraemer was of sound disposing mind and memory understanding that he subscribed the same instrument as a witness to the Execution thereof in the presence of the said deceased. And at his request And that he saw from Buck the other subscribing witness write his name thereto in the presence of the said deceased and at his request

Jacob Kraemer

Sworn & Subscribed the 28th day of April 1813

Before me Wm. Petrichin Register

County of Essex Before me William Petrichin Register for the probate of wills and granting Letters of administration in and for the County aforesaid came John M. Newkome of the Subscribing witnesses to the above and foregoing instrument of writing and on his solemn oath duly administered according to law did depose & say that he was personally present with Daniel Kraemer in the foregoing instrument of writing named and now deceased and saw him sign and seal and heard him publish and declare the foregoing instrument of writing as due for his last will and testament that at the same time the said Daniel Kraemer was of sound and disposing mind and memory understanding that he subscribed the same instrument as a witness to the Execution thereof in the presence of the said deceased and at his request And that he saw Jacob Kraemer the other Subscribing witness write his name thereto in the presence of the said deceased and at his request

Sworn & Subscribed the 26th day of August 1813

Before me Wm. Petrichin Register

Jacob Kraemer

FIGURE 2.19 (CONT.)

son John (about 16 at the time) to stay on the farm and work the land. He married Catherine Richards in 1820 and they set up housekeeping in the barn. They had two sons, John Richards Buchtel, who later founded Buchtel College (now Akron University) and William Buchtel.

The other children were farmed out to relatives. Margaret appears to have become unbalanced and died not long after Peter, possibly by drowning. No stone or record of her death has ever been found.

Perrin and others include some notes on John's family as follows: Daniel and Samuel moved to Indiana and bought farms, Daniel on March 6 and Samuel later in the fall of 1837 (History of Northeast Indiana, p. 217). Samuel erected the first grist mill, called Franklin Mills, on Fish Creek in the northeast part of the township in 1856. After his death in 1862, his widow Mary Noragon (picture in Figure 2.20, provided by Virginia DeHaven) married Elisha W. Beard (9/1814 - 3/2/81) who erected the Evangelical Luthern church in that township. Andrew J. Kepler died from a gunshot wound apparently inflicted by his son-in-law, Godfrey Semler, in a notorious incident reported in Lane (p. 804-807). Daniel's children Hannah, Sarah, and Daniel all moved to Kansas and raised large families.

George and Catharine's family is given in Chapter 4 rather than in Figure 2.15. It is believed that they moved from Stark County to their farm about the spring of 1835 after their son Solomon was born. Catherine was the sister of George's brother Jacob's wife Susannah, as shown in Figure 2.21. The history of their parentage is also interesting, if only because of the confusion of the Dieter's possible intermarrying throughout both sides of the family, the Marsh's and the Beer's (refer to the notes to Figure 2.21).

In a historical sketch of the Marsh family given by S.P. Marsh, a descendent of George L., at a family reunion in 1926, Susannah Beer, as a little girl, is said to have strewn flowers before George Washington when on his way to New York City in April 1789 to be sworn in as President. Others note that she sang at his funeral in December 1799 as well. The sketch also notes that Adam Marsh, Sr. came from Germany in the 1700s and fought as a Corporal (Northampton County, Pennsylvania militia) in the Revolutionary War (Penn. archives). Adam, Jr. also served in the Northampton County militia, as a PFC in 1782. Adam III and his wife Susannah left Pennsylvania with their three children (Catharine was 4 years old) and came to Stark (at that time) Co. in 1820 in a Pennsylvania schooner drawn by four large draft horses.

Susannah and Catharine's grandfather Enoch Beer appears to have been a rather gallant figure. He was commissioned and mustered as a First Lieutenant in the Third Company of the First Battalion "Flying Camp" on July 9, 1776, this unit having been raised by special act of Congress. He served at Amboy, New Jersey in August of 1776 and the battalion, brigaded with other units from Maryland and Pennsylvania, then proceeded to join General Washington in New York. Stationed on Long Island, the battalion, with several sister units, stood like a rock against the British and Hessian onslaught, saving the Continental Army from sure disaster. At the fall of Fort Washington on November 18, 1776 he was captured with his men and imprisoned at the Baptist Meeting House in New York. Later, in 1785 he was elected and commissioned as a Justice of the Peace in Northampton County of Pennsylvania. In 1789 he was appointed a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas



FIGURE 2.20 MARY NORAGON (c. 1890)

NOTES:

a: Julianna's father was apparently Johannes Dieter, born in Germany. His children with his first wife were: about 1724 John William who died 1773 and married Eliz. Everett, Catherine who married Jacob Everett, Julianna, Gloria, and Hans Wm. who was born 1730, died 1783, and married Eliz. Beer who died 1790. The children by his second wife in 1749 were Eliz., Mary, and Susanna. Some have said that Adam's wife Julianna, his son's wife Susannah Catherine, and Enoch Beer's wife Mary Gloria were sisters/step-sisters. This seems unlikely since it would mean that Susannah married her sister's son and Gloria was about 59 when Mary (youngest daughter) was born.

S.P. Marsh in a family reunion in 1926 stated that Susannah Beer's grandfather's name was Esch. One source states that a Catherine Esche was the wife of Enoch Beer. Perhaps S.P. meant great-grandfather, in which case this could have been Moses Beer's wife's name or Mary Gloria's mother's maiden name. At any rate, if Enoch Beer's wife was a Dieter, it seems clear that she wasn't the daughter of Johannes Dieter.

- b: Also given as Mary.
- c: This name is suspiciously similar to that in note a, wife of another John.
- d: Also given as 3.
- e: Also given as 1879.
- f: Also given as 16. Gravestone states age as 80y, 6m, 5d.
- g: S.P. Marsh says family came from New Jersey.
- h: Also given as 1795.
- i: Had children of 6 sons and 6 daughters.
- j: Also given as Elizabeth ?

FIGURE 2.21 (CONT.)

of Northampton County.

Moving over to Andrew's family, the first edition of this book included a possible birth in 1814 but no evidence has been found of such and it was dropped in this edition. However, Perrin notes that he had eleven children, of which nine lived to adulthood. Some other notes from Perrin are that Andrew fought in the War of 1812 (John sent a substitute), that Samuel (Kepler) died Aug. 10, 1854 from a bolt of lightning (though Beverly Coss cannot find such a report in the newspapers of that time), that Mary widowed all three of her husbands, and that Elizabeth moved to Illinois after marrying Samuel Stoever.

Let us now consider the ancestry of John and Andrew. There are two competing theories of their parentage-- one, referred to here as the "old lineage", is based on the work of Mrs. Josphine Tholl (a descendent of John's son Jacob, George's brother) and a Mr. Baughman, as updated and corrected primarily by Shirley Eike and Christopher Kepler. The other theory, referred to here as the "new lineage", is based on the work of Karl Freidrich von Frank and Walter Lee Sheppard, Jr. as updated and added to by Christopher Kepler. The latter has been only recently published in genealogical journals.

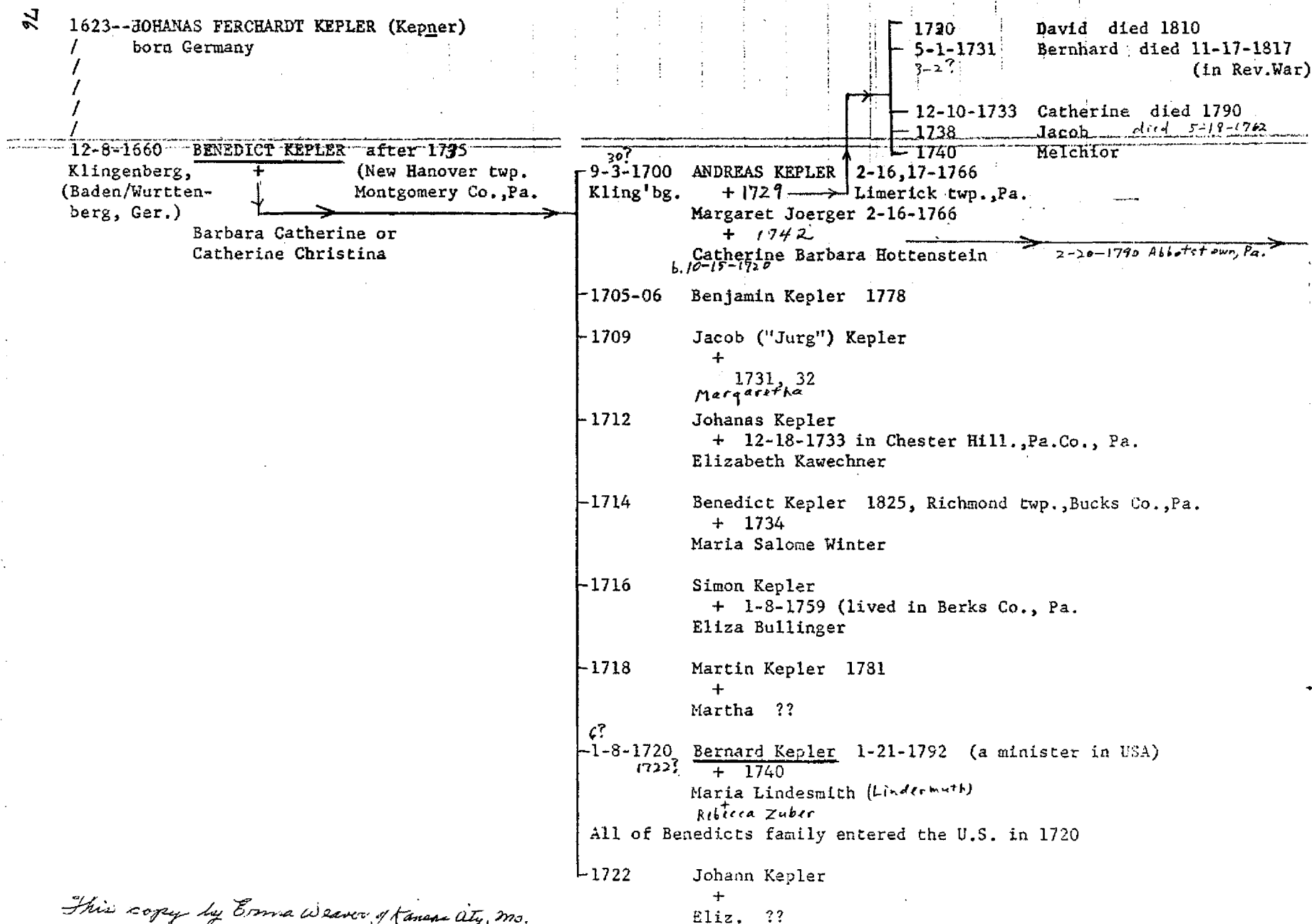
Erma Weaver has compiled the various versions of the old lineage, supplemented by information from Gustair Keppler and Pear Gowdy, shown in Figure 2.22. In the final set of children there is a considerable amount of confusion regarding birth years, and whether Samuel and Catherine even belong in this family. Another issue of concern is the birth and death dates of Jacob, and his wife's name. If the Jacob referred to earlier (Figure 2.18, husband of Elizabeth Kramer) is the brother of our John and Andrew (a John Kepler was a witness at the probate, though this may be a different John Kepler), then the birth and death dates and wife's name are wrong.

The more recently published "new lineage" is based primarily on the church records of the Luthern and Reformed congregations of Bush Valley, Centre Co., Pa. of 1792 and later showing the following parishioners and the first day they appear on the church records:

1794 Daniel Kramer, Sr.	-- Anna Maria (Giese)
1794 Jacob Kepler	----- Elizabeth (Kramer)
1799 John Kepler	----- Magdalena (Kramer)
1803 Andrew Kepler	----- Maria (Kramer)
1804 John Roush	----- Maria (Kepler)
1806 Henry Kehler	----- Catherine (Kepler)
1806 George Kepler	----- Margaret (unknown)

The tie between the women's married names and that of the children named in the will of Bernard Kepner, Sr. as shown in Figure 2.23 is compelling.

Now let us go forward in time to the year 1855, eleven years after the death of George and Catharine.



*This copy by Emma Weaver of Kansas City, Mo.
(1992)*

FIGURE 2.22 OLD LINEAGE OF JOHN & ANDREW

-1744	Wilhelm (William) Kepler 1806 Catherine Lindemuth (Liebenguth?) ^{+ 1761}
→ -2-4-1746	Andrew (Andreas) Kepler 1787 <u>+ 1761 (1763?)</u>
Limerick twp. Mont. Co., Pa. twins ↑?	Margaretha Braun (Brown)
-6-29-1748 (2-4-1746)?	Eliz. Barbara Kepler + 3-7-1769
twins ↑?	Johanas Butz (Betz?)
-6-29-1748 12? 51?	Johanas Kepler 1-29-1772 Catherine — 10? 19?
-10-25-1750	Hannah Kepler 5-22-1769 + Benjamin Stetler
-2-26-1753 25?	Dorothea Kepler 12-7-1810 + 12-10-1771 9? Peter Iches
-1755	Heinrich Kepler 9-16-1785 + 11-12-1776 Maria Brandt
-2-14-1757	Tobias Kepler 8-1-1838 (in Rev. War) + 1836? Susanna Bittinger
-1759 1761? 1760?	Anna Marie (Mary) Kepler + Samuel Knefel (Kinsel?)

FIGURE 2.22 (CONT.)

3-22-1772 ^{bpt. 9-20-1772} Anne Maria Kepler
 8? +
 ??
 -1774 Susan Kepler
 +
 Nicholas Stickney (*Stickley, Sicheley*)
 -10-9-1775 JOHN KEPLER 10-?-1833(?)
 (bptd 12-24-1775)
 + 1798
 -7-7-1776 Magdalena Kraemer (Kramer)? 1852
 -2-16-1777 ^{bpt. 4-27-1777} Andrew Kepler 1-16-1855, (in war, 1812
 1776? East Liberty, Ohio (Su
 +
 Anna Mary Kramer
 -3-31-1779 Wilhelm Kepler
 1779? + 9-2-1833
 Judith Leidig
 -1780 Jacob Kepler 1832
 +
 Magdelina Leidig
 -2-7-1782 Tobias Kepler
 1781? +
 Barbara Reiner
 [-6-2-1782 Catherine Kepler] ?
 -3-24-1784 Elizabeth and + (11-18-1809) Joseph Jost
Heinrich Kepler (twins)
 + 1-31-1858
 Catherine Seckell (*Schness?*)
 -7-17-1786 -----Kepler 7-31-1786
 -6-16-1779 Samuel Kepler 8-22-1857

<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>born (date, place)</u>	<u>died</u>	<u>Mother</u>	<u>born</u>	<u>died</u>	<u>Children</u>
Georg Kepner	before 1570 Kleinhaslach, Ansbach	Grosshaslach, Ansbach	Elizabeth		Grosshaslach	Andreas
Andreas Kepner	before 1592 Grosshaslach	after 1626 Grosshaslach	Anna			Johannes
Johannes Kepner	bpt. 2/17/1623 Grosshaslach	4/12/1680 Sulzfeld, Baden	Barbara	Ansbach	Baden	Hans Bernhard
Hans Bernhard K.	1/30/1673 Sulzfeld	10/17/1765 Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.	Barbara Schlagmann	12/28/1672 Sulzfeld	Phil., Pa.	Benedict (married on 11/22/1698)
Benedict Kepner	6/29/1714 Sulzfeld	after 1778 Berks Co., Pa.	Maria Salome		Berks Co., Pa.	Bernard Maria Margaretha (bpt. 2/19/1755)
Bernard K., Sr.	Pa.	Nov. 1817 Schuylkill Co., Pa.	Maria Eliz.	Pa.	Pa.	Bernhart (Bernard Jr.) Benedict (d. before 11/22/1817?) Benjamin John Andrew Henry Samuel William Isaac Jacob Moses Tobias George Molly (Mrs. Isaac Whetstone) Anna Maria (Mrs. David Susanna Raudenbush) Esther Maria Salome (Mrs. Roch(Roush)) Catherine (Mrs. Kehler)

FIGURE 2.23 NEW LINEAGE OF JOHN & ANDREW

Chapter Three

THE MIGRATION

Blairsburg, IA
July 15th 1893

Dear Friend

Remember me when I am in a distant land
Remember the writing of my hand
And if my grave shall be my lot
Remember me when I am not.

Your friend,
Mabel Lincoln

. . . clickety CLICKETY clickety CLICKETY clickety . . . It is mid-spring of 1855. The 9:22* out of Chicago to Dubuque, Iowa by way of Elgin, Rockford, and points west has been traveling for three hours now. In the third car behind the coal tender two bewhiskered brothers sit in the first seat on the south side of the car. Their strong heavy bodies sink into the leather of the seat and their size and whiskers make them look older than the actual bare 20s that they in fact are. The older brother Adam is taller and not as hefty as the younger brother Solomon, but the cut of their eyes, and the accent in their voices when they speak, clearly identify them as brothers.

Just now the brothers are discussing their plans upon reaching Dubuque. They are coming to Iowa to survey the prospects of locating good land near Fort Dodge where the government, to encourage settling (Iowa having been admitted to the Union only nine years previously), has advertised cheap fertile farmland. However, they are in no hurry and, after crossing the Mississippi by ferryboat to Dubuque (the train doesn't actually cross the river), they plan to walk the distance to Fort Dodge, 160 miles distant on the west side of Iowa, examining the Iowa farmland over the summer and returning to Ohio in the fall. They do not plan to settle right now, but rather to invest in good farmland that will be available after they have acquired some household belongings and, perhaps, married.

By the end of the summer the Kepler brothers had located and purchased good farmland in Clear Lake Township, Hamilton County, east of Fort Dodge near the Boone River, south of Webster City. After spending a little more time getting further acquainted with the area they returned to their homes and brothers and sisters in Ohio to report on their exciting trip. Had Adam and Solomon not been orphans, they might not have considered moving to Iowa, staying in Ohio instead and, like most Ohio farmers' sons, working their father's farm. When Adam and Solomon returned to Ohio with their exciting news, their elder sister, Susannah, had some exciting news herself; she was engaged to be married soon after New Years Day, 1856, to John George Snyder.

Indeed, on January 3, 1856, Susannah was married, followed not long thereafter by Mary Magdalena in November to Henry Sours, a local farmer. In 1857 Susannah had more exciting news, the birth of twins! In March of 1858, Adam himself was married to Elizabeth Meyers in Doylestown, Ohio and immediately thereafter moved to Iowa to farm his land. In December of 1859 Adam became a father. Sadly, the baby, Sevilah, was sickly and died ten days later.

In the meantime, the young United States republic was having intense political arguments about the issue of slavery and, in February of 1860, a tall, gangly "rail-splitter" from Illinois gave a notable speech on the topic at Cooper Union in New York City. Nine months later, this ex-Whig by the name of Lincoln, with a minority of the popular vote, was elected president and, by the time of his inauguration in January, 1861, seven states had seceded from the Union. By April, the United States was engaged in civil war.

About the same time as Lincoln's inauguration, Solomon was taking out a marriage license (Figure 3.1) to become married to Philena Dennison, an orphan like himself, raised in nearby Barberton by the farming family of Simon Myers (Figure 3.2). They were married January 27th and moved soon thereafter to eastern Indiana. In April of the following year their first child, Mary Cordelia, was born.

Meanwhile, the Civil War raged and both Alfred and William, the two younger sons, served in the Union army as privates. On July 3, 1862 William was wounded in the Seven Days' Battle when General Lee foiled General McClellan's attempt to capture Richmond, Virginia by moving up the Yorktown peninsula. William's wound in his left shoulder healed, however, and he later went on to great achievements.

While the war carried on, the other Kepler brothers and sisters were farming and raising their families. By the conclusion of the war in 1865, Solomon was again thinking about his farmland in Iowa and in the spring of 1869, after considerable preparations and the birth of his fourth daughter, he outfitted a covered wagon to take his family and their possessions on the long, arduous journey. His brother Alfred, who in the meantime had also married and moved to Indiana, preceded him in 1868 with a wagon load of family and possessions. The journey went well and the children, in later years, remember it as the most exciting event in their childhood.

The State of Ohio, }
 SUMMIT COUNTY, ss. } Personally appeared Solomon Kepler
 and made application for a Marriage License for himself
 and Philena Denison of the township of Westlake in said County,
 and made solemn oath that he is over the age of 21 years, and
Miss Philena is over the age of 18 years, and not nearer of him than First Cousins,
 BOTH SINGLE, and he knows of no legal impediment against their being JOINED IN MARRIAGE.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 24 day of January A. D. 1861.
Solomon Kepler
Philena Denison
Wm. Humphrey ^{clerk} Judge

I Certify that on the _____ day of _____ 18____
 _____ filed his certificate that the foregoing parties were legally joined
 in Marriage by him, on the _____ day of _____ A. D. 18____
 ATTEST, _____ Clerk

No. _____

January 24 1861

A MARRIAGE LICENSE

Was this day granted to

Solomon Kepler +

and

Philena Denison

Wm. Humphrey

Probate Judge.

No. 983

The State of Ohio, Summit County, ss:

I Certify, that on the 27 day of January 1861,
Solomon Kepler and Philena Denison
 were legally joined in Marriage by me.

Edward Allen P.

FIGURE 3.1 SOLOMON AND PHILENA'S MARRIAGE LICENSE

47..70	Simon Myers	52	M	Farmer	2200
	Elisabeth	51	F		
	Rufus	21	M	do	
	Mary A	18	F		
	Lydia A	12	F		
	Simon	11	M		
	Philena E. Dennison	7	F		
	Catharine Hartman	2/12	F		

FIGURE 3.2 PHILENA'S FOSTER FAMILY: 1850 CENSUS (SUMMIT CO., NORTON TOWNSHIP)
 (Simon Myers 52 M Farmer 2200 (acres) Elisabeth 51 F Rufus 21 M do (ditto
 meaning farmer also) Mary A. 18 F Lydia A 12 F Simon 11 M Philena E. Dennison
 7 F Catharine Hartman 2/12 F)

Life in Iowa

Figure 3.3 illustrates the covered wagon journeys of John and Andrew in 1809 and Solomon and Alfred in 1869. The farms and homes of Adam, Solomon, Alfred and other relations, plus the locations of important sites and features in the Webster City - Stanhope area are illustrated in Figs 3.4 & 5. When Adam first came in 1858, his farm was located in the general area of what was known as "Saratoga." Though a post office once existed there, today there is nothing to indicate even the location.

The following information has been obtained from various sources and is not in chronological (nor any other) order. The intent is to simply give a feel for life in Iowa in those days.

* * * * *

*In the fall of 1869 a prairie schooner wound its tedious way from Tama County, westward over rolling prairies of central Iowa. A young man directing the course of the schooner while his young wife sat by his side and helped every blessed way she could, both with voice and smile.

Along towards evening they went into camp $\frac{1}{2}$ milesouth of where the depot once stood. While the young man began unloading the schooner, his wife was busy preparing the meal, for they had come to stay. The first settler, Ray Parker (who was the father of Bill Parker, one-time postmaster of the town) had located in Stanhope.**

Hard work, small results, neighbors few and far between are some of the facts of those early days. When nature had been kind to Ray Parker and he had something to sell, it was a great undertaking to get it to market. Webster City and Boone were the nearest markets, and they were not close then as now, for the roads were not maintained; in fact, they were little more than trails to follow. The nearest post office was at Hook's Point (one mile north of Stratford) where the stage left the mail once a week.

The next spring, another young couple, Alfred Kepler and his wife, settled about a quarter of a mile north of the Parkers***Even those neighbors were not close, and in order for the women to just "drop in for a minute" they had to go way around the swamp spreading a mile east and west between their homes. A little later in the spring,**** James Madison Bute settled in the neighborhood, and they felt that the locality was quite thickly populated. A few years later a school house was built across the road from the present Kathleen Peterson farm and Mrs. Ray Parker would gather the five children of the neighborhood and teach them to cipher and spell, read and write, and other essentials of good citizenship.

Sunday School

The first Sunday School in Clear Lake township was organized by Adam Kepler. It began in a school house which stood almost across the road from the Kathleen Peterson home. This school house was moved just south of Stanhope in 1879, and the Sunday School and church services were held there until the M.E. Church was built. Other families helped in the organization and growth - among these were Alfred Kepler and Adam Kepler. The church was remodeled in 1937 - cost \$4,500.

* From the book Stanhope: 1869 to 1976 by the J.M. Club of Stanhope. Written by Doris Kilman, Esther Carlson, Helen Fardel, and Gertrude Parker. Used by permission.

** Though Adam had come in 1858, he settled near what was later called Saratoga and Alfred and Solomon also did not initially locate in this area, which later became Stanhope.

***See map, Figure 3.5.

****At the location shown as George Franklin Kepler in Figure 3.5.

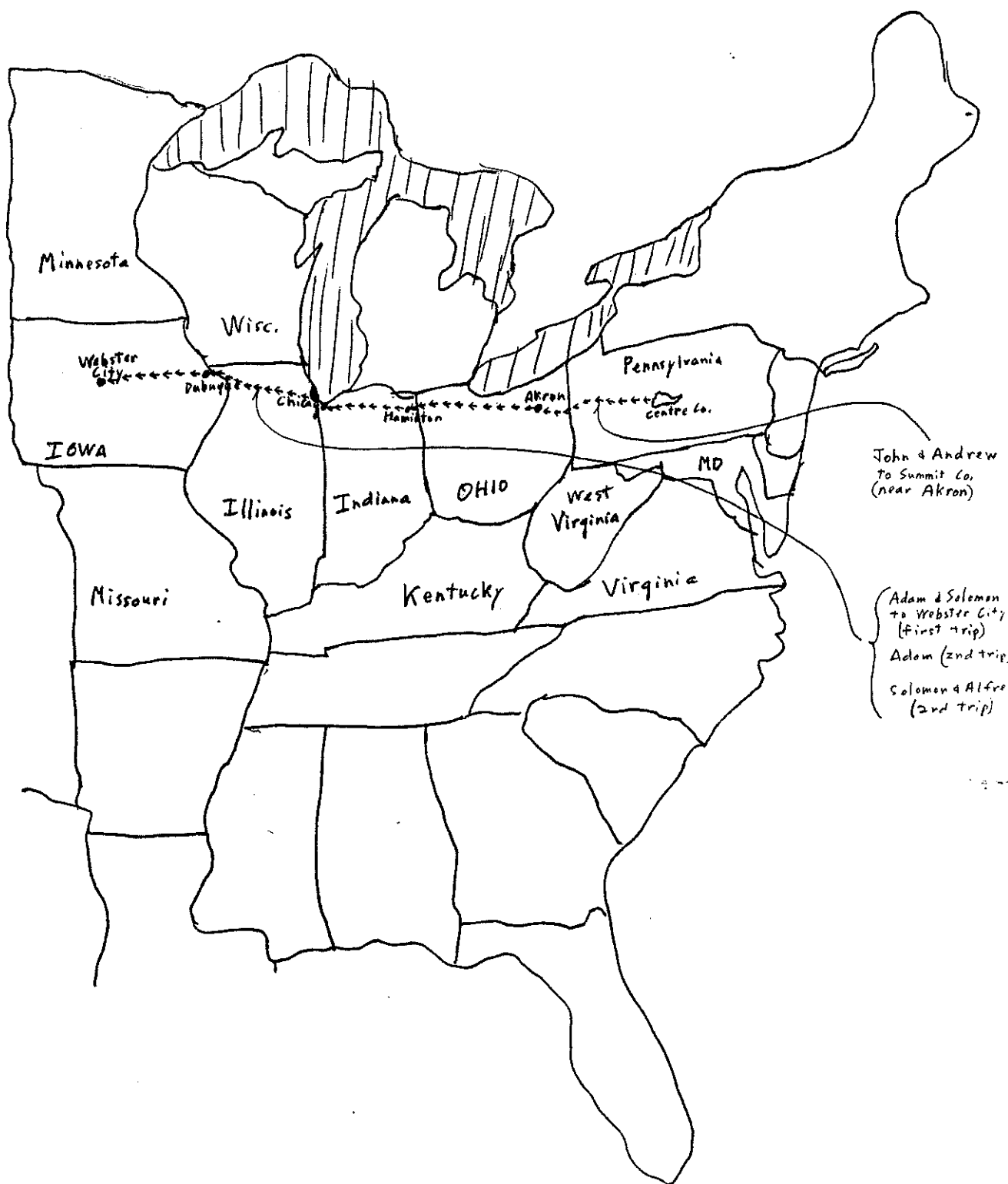
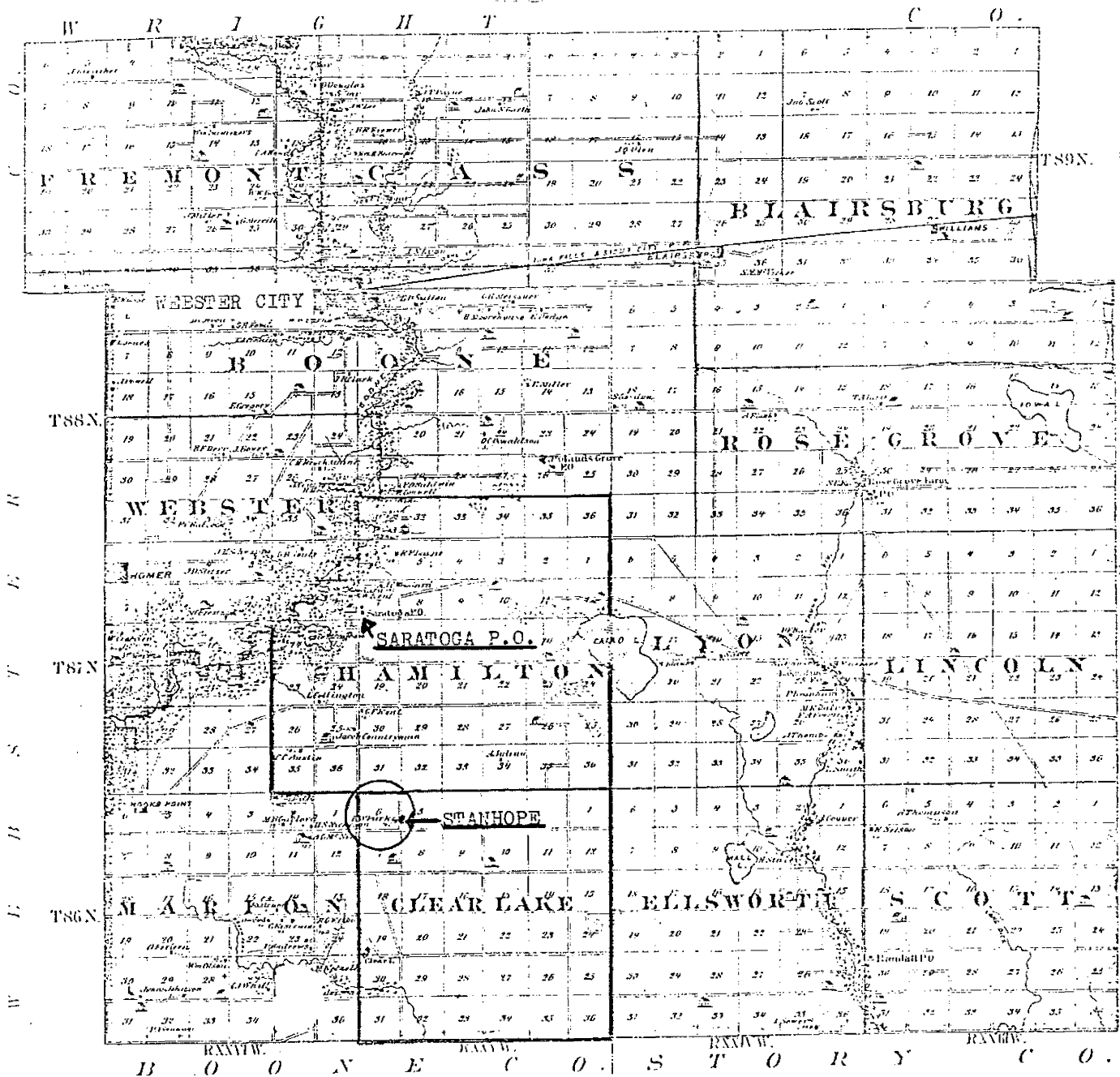


FIGURE 3.3 THE KEPLER MIGRATIONS

1875.



REFERENCE	
Burn House	.....
School House	.....
Church	.....
Mill	.....
Blacksmith Shop	.....
Concession	.....
Asphalt	.....
Paul Smith	.....
Proposed Rail Route	.....
Trucks	.....
Swamp	.....
Creek	.....
Forest	.....



FIGURE 3.4

FIGURE 3.4

STATE OF IOWA

Note: Hamilton County was formed out of Webster County in 1856.

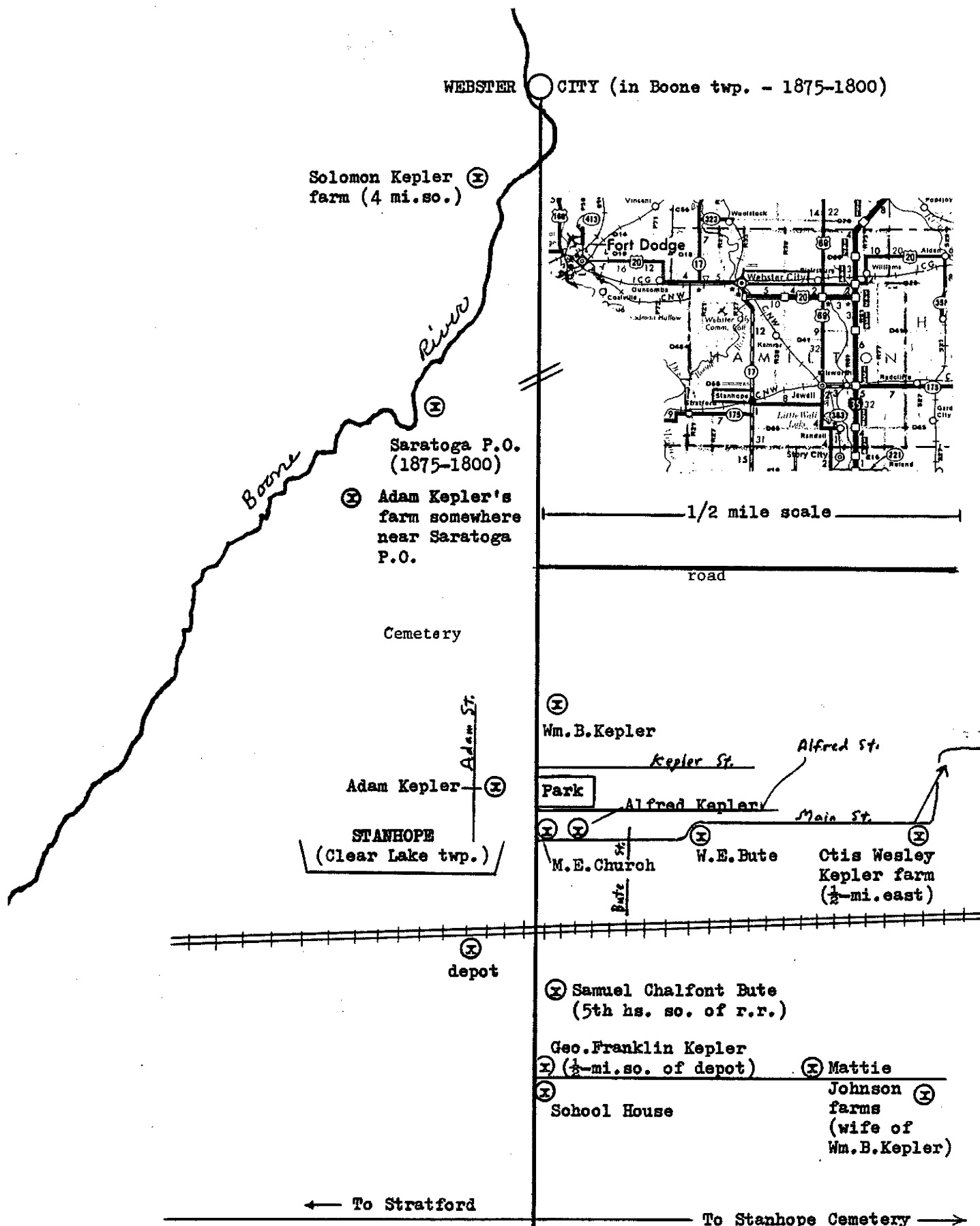


FIGURE 3.5 ERMA J. WEAVER'S MAP OF STANHOPE

Stanhope Methodist Church

Stanhope Methodist Church was organized in 1873 by P. O. Ray. It became a part of the Stratford Circuit and remained so until 1892 when the parsonage at Stanhope was completed.

Early in the spring of 1889, plans were made and the records show that Alfred Kepler and his wife "in consideration of a desire to promote public morality and religion" sold to the trustees for a consideration of \$75, the ground on which the Methodist Episcopal church stands. The church was dedicated November 9, 1889. The church is on the northeast corner of Main Street and Parker Street (see Figure 3.6).



FIGURE 3.6 ORIGINAL METHODIST EPISCOPALIAN CHURCH (CIRCA 1890) & TODAY
(Parker St. in front left, Main St. on right side)

The first pastor seemed to have been a Reverend Franklin who was an itinerant pastor who lived at Hook's Point. He is said to have been very temperamental, often jumping in mid-air, rarely having both feet on the floor at the same time, and he preached very long sermons.

School Development

The first school house was a two-room log house located on Squaw Creek, south of Stanhope. This school was here before Stanhope was settled. In 1871, Mrs. Ray Parker taught 5 students at her place, because the other school house was too far away. The first school was taught by Mrs. William R. Wilson, and her husband was director, though his judgment of a teacher's qualifications was not always right. The teachers were often not much more advanced than the pupils. Other teachers were Samuel Chaffant Bute, Delila Jane Bute, and Joe Fardal.

In 1879 a school house was moved to the corner, one-half mile south of the present site of Stanhope. About 1893 a new school building (3 room) was built. They had a Board of which George Franklin Kepler was a member. Nellie Mae Bute attended and graduated from here in 1904, after an illness that delayed her graduation from the first class (of 1903).

Finally an 8-room school was built in 1941, and in 1952 a \$45,000 addition was made. From here on, the school building enlarged and more schools were built.

Post Office

Hook's Point was one mile north of Stratford, and the nearest post office in the neighborhood. When the railroad was put through in 1880, and the depot built two years later, the mail was dropped off once a week. The very first post office was in the front room of Ray Parker's home which was just south of where the depot was (and is no longer). In the early 1890s the post office was moved to the back of Swanson Fardal Store. In 1906 several moves were made. Bill Parker (son of Ray) was Postmaster. He had two lady clerks.

Before the rural delivery was organized in Stanhope, Henry Jacobson offered this service to about 10 of his creamery customers. He would go out to the farms for milk, and while there, was often requested to bring mail and groceries from town when he made his second trip to the farms, returning the skim milk. Oscar Brewer and Samuel Chaffant Bute (first son of James Madison Bute), and seventeen year old Imbert Johnson were appointed mail carriers in 1903. They carried the mail by horse and buggy or a two-wheel cart. When Brewer dropped out, Elvin William Bute (nephew of Samuel Bute) took his route over.

Railroad

Rumors began to reach the people - in 1878 a gang of surveyors put in an appearance. It was tiring and a long tedious drive to Hook's Point to get the mail, so the settlers were determined in 1878 to ask Uncle Sam to deliver the mail closer to them. A petition was sent in, expecting that possibly somewhere in the dim, distant future their request would be granted. To their surprise, within a short time, Mrs. Ray Parker received an appointment as postmistress to the village. The mail was brought by carrier from Hook's Point once a week, for the railroad was not built until 1880, and the depot in 1882. At that time, only about a dozen houses stood in what comprised the village. It was a cause of great rejoicing when the depot was completed and trains made regular stops. Robert Wheatley was the first station agent. He built the house where Clarence Wing now lives. His brother, Eugene, succeeded him as station agent.

Other Business in Town

The unsurpassed possibilities of the soil of central Iowa had attracted other settlers and in 1882 Sam Lane established a general store just south of the depot. In 1883, Iver Johnson moved his store from Lake Center to Stanhope, and H. E. Fardal went into business with him. This store was located where the Read Garage is now.

This was the first permanent store in town, as the general store started by Sam Lane had been of short duration.

At this time, October, 1883, the Western Town Lot Company laid out the town and called it Stanhope after one of the officials of the Chicago Northwestern Railway. Ray Parker sold to Toledo and Northwestern Railroad 4.15 acres for the depot, and 20 acres north of the depot. This land was the land platted for the Stanhope town lots.

There were four houses then within the corporation; the homes of Adam and Alfred Kepler; the Bute (James Madison Bute) house and the Anderson farm house. Jim Mackey now owns the Alfred Kepler house (as of this writing, 1979, the house is deserted) and A. W. Williams owns Adam Kepler's house. The Andrew Anderson house was torn down in the spring of 1954. It had been occupied by Sam Anderson. Other old houses are the Norman Lass home, built by Ike Kepler (Isaac); the S. S. Stark home, now the Christian Church parsonage; Mrs. Robert Fisher's house, built by Alf Swanson; and the Dale Henderson house, built by Frank Stark. The houses of Adam, Alfred, Solomon, and George Franklin are illustrated in Figure 3.7 and streets named after them, as well as Main Street (circa 1920), in Figure 3.8.

The stores included a blacksmith shop run by Bill Shaeffer; a hotel owned by P. L. Peterson that Ellis Hardware now occupies, believed to be the oldest business house in town, built by Alf Berggren; a bank where the Read Auto Parts Department is now located and managed by William Howard; and a general store owned by Swanson Reilly and Ristrim in the building now occupied by Wade's Hatchery. Mr. Marvick and Clarence Tjernagel operated a clothing store in 1910 in Stanhope. Tjernagel's wife was Agnes, daughter of Cora Jane (Kepler) Snyder. In 1918 they sold out.

In the latter part of 1897 the idea of incorporating the town arose without much interest at first, but the idea grew until on October 13, 1897 the following men were appointed commissioners to call and hold an election: E. L. Wheatley, H. E. Fardal, Iver Johnson and G. E. Hamaker. They called the election for the 15th day of November in the Dick and Wilson Hall for the purpose of deciding whether the described territory should be incorporated. Said poll was open at 8:00 a.m. and closed at 6:00 p.m. At this election, 63 votes were cast -- 46 for incorporation, and 14 against and 3 spoiled ballots. The court approved the returns and Judge S. M. Weaver affixed his signature, making the town an incorporated city on December 14, 1897.

Edgar and Vernon Kepler, sons of William B. Kepler, had a restaurant in Stanhope. One of the stories told around about that time (1913-14) concerns one of the Kepler boys who, upon hearing of the Armistice, rushed out of the establishment with a double barrel shotgun, and let fly in the air with both barrels. He forgot to look up, and, as a result, shot away the telephone line on that side of the street.

George Franklin Kepler had a Harness Shop between Hove's Garage and offices. Then Andy Snyder had his plumbing and heating shop there in 1918. (If this is the same Hove shop as of today, it is on the east side of the street, one block south of the M.E. Church.) Harold Snyder, son of Andrew (Andy) Snyder began helping his father in the plumbing business about 1923, then worked into the electrical business. He served as the town electrician until about 1940.

Farmers Co-Op Elevator

On April 24, 1904, at a meeting of the farmers of Stanhope and vicinity, an organization was formed and incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa for \$10,000, said organization to be known as the Farmers Elevator and Livestock Company of Stanhope.

On May 7 the officers met and proceeded to make a deal to purchase the west elevator for \$5500 with a 30 day option, and on May 21 decided to take the elevator at that price. The deal was concluded July 1, 1905.

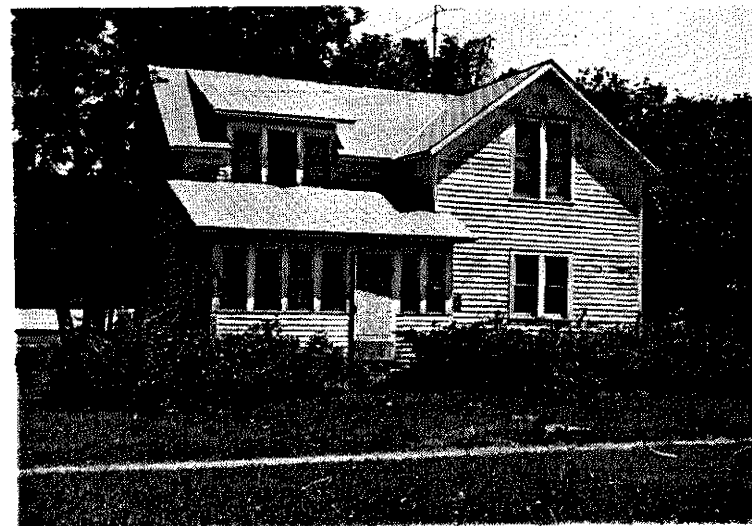
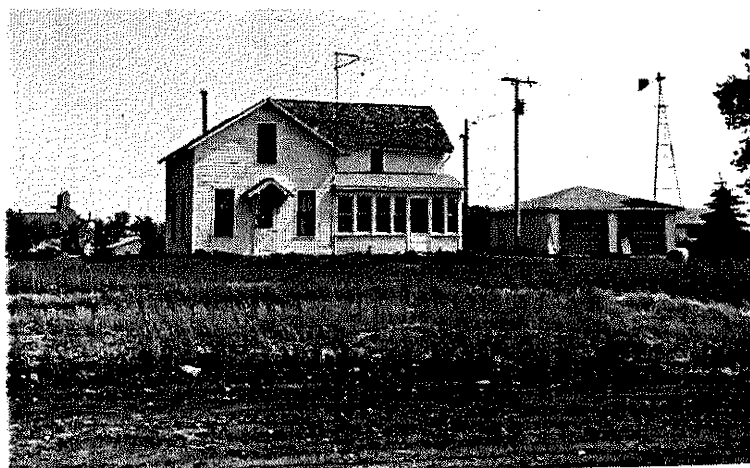
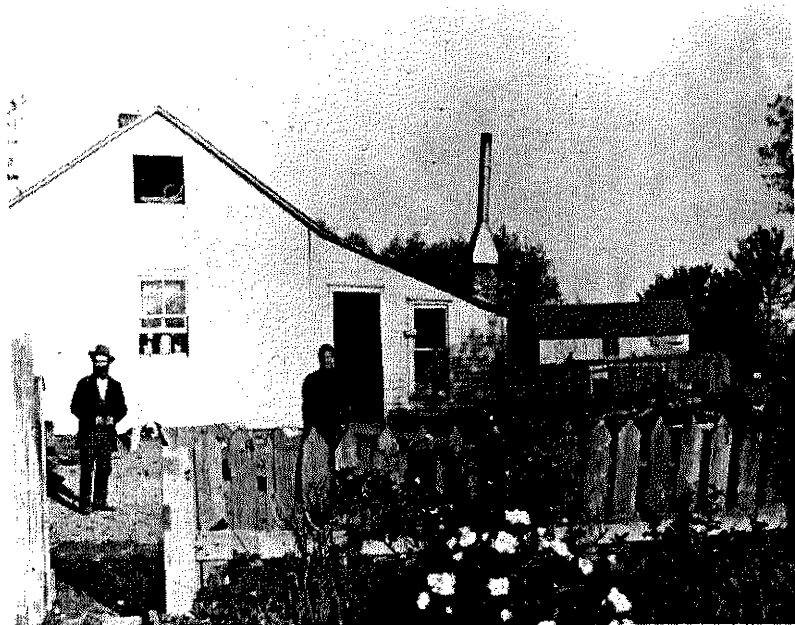


FIGURE 3.7 FOUR STANHOPE HOMES (clockwise: Solomon and Philena in front of their farmhouse in about 1900, Adam's restored yellow and chocolate house in 1979, Alfred's house boarded up in 1979, George Franklin Kepler's house in 1979.)

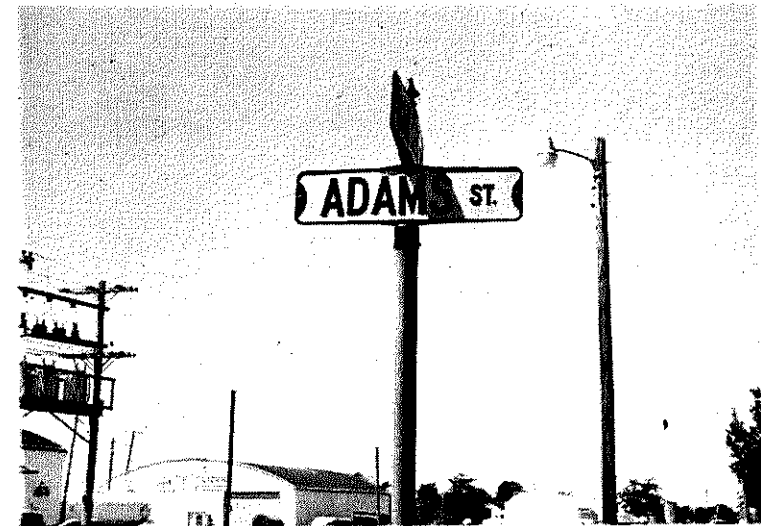


FIGURE 3.8 MAIN STREET IN 1920, STANHOPE; ALFRED AND ADAM'S STREETS

The first lady to assist in the office was Maude Jacobson. She was followed by Victoria Bute. There were others to follow Victoria.

The elevator constantly improved through the years with modern office and a new scale built in 1939, etc. The original charter expired in 1944, and the company was reorganized under the name Farmers Cooperative Elevator. In April, 1975 the Jewel Cooperative Elevator and the Farmers Cooperative Elevator merged to become known as Central Iowa Cooperative.

Here are a few interesting early day prices (see Figure 3.9): calico per yard, 6¢; prints per yard, 15 to 18¢; men's best overall, pair 85¢; men's work shoes a pair, \$1.40; best flour 49 lb. bag, \$1; lamp globes, 10¢ each; "Lion Head" coffee per pound, 15¢; sugar per 100 lb. bag, \$5.40. The most competitive item then was sugar which could at various times be bought from 18 up to 23 lbs. for \$1.00.

For men these were stylish: celluloid collars, spats, ankle-length underwear, plug hats, button shoes and, for the ladies: black cotton stockings, floor-length dresses, and Piccadilli button shoes.

Several highlights marked the Iverson's career. One was the "Food Fair" staged upon the opening of a new and more modern grocery department. The occasion was celebrated in a large rented tent set up directly outside the back door. A great number of factory and jobber representatives were present to demonstrate and to distribute samples. Plenty of home-made donuts, other eats, coffee, cold drinks, and so forth were lavishly served FREE throughout the fair. A "Hawkeye" broom was given free every hour during the day. The "Marvel Sisters' Orchestra" of Webster City, so popular at the time, greatly enhanced the affair with excellent music all day and evening.

Clearance sales were not uncommon in early days. On the opening morning of one such occasion, as one of several features, shoes were dropped from the store roof down to the crowd below where the scramble for the mates took place. Since it was unique, this proved interesting and enjoyable.

OUT OF THE ASHES

(An account of Stanhope's two great fires: November 17, 1905 and March, 1906) - written by Fred C. Runkle, editor of The Stanhope Mail.

Thursday, November 16, 1905 was a day that held nothing of special interest to fasten it on the minds of our little city as far as was known. When night came our merchants had transacted business in the usual way. On the street men had bargained, bought and sold. When the business houses were closed for the night and quiet reigned, there was nothing to suggest, even to the most suspicious, that before the sun rose forth in his glittering chariot to adorn another day, that events would have occurred that all would remember and mourn.

Fire and water are two of the great blessings possessed by the world. They also at times become great destroyers. 'Twas so on the night of which I write.

During the dark still hours of the night when all were lost in sleep, the clock having tolled off the midnight hours, F. R. Jenkins was awakened from sleep by the cry of "Fire! Fire!" Mr. Jenkins jumped from his bed and looked out. It was a fact! Great sheets of flames were already climbing high on the building east of his place. He went to the phone and as quickly as the bells could wake the sleepers the news flashed all over the city and neighboring country. "Stanhope is on fire!" Quickly the response came--men in town arriving first, then those from the country. Soon a regiment of men were on the scene working as only brave men can work. So good a start had the fire before the alarm was given, that anyone could see that the dry wooden buildings comprising the west side of the street were doomed. But the men worked with a determination exceeded only by the determination of the fire. Foot by foot the fire advanced, but every foot it gained was over the determined opposition of the men who were doing what they could. When daylight dawned, the two-story brick, known as the corner store, was all that was left on the west side of the street.

<p>IGA PURE COCOA 1-Lb. Can 14c</p> <hr/> <p>KELLOGG'S KRUMBLES 2 Pkg. 21c</p>	<p>IGA ASSORTED Beverages 2 Quart Bottles 19c A healthful and refreshing low cost treat ... keep a few on ice!</p>	<p>IGA FANCY SHRIMP</p> <hr/> <p>ENRICHED WITH  GRAHAM CRACKERS Crisp, gold wafers! So milk for and evenin</p>
<p>IGA Sliced Pineapple No. 2 1/2 Can 24c</p> <hr/> <p>IGA Brand Pork and Beans 2 1-Lb. Cans 13c</p> <hr/> <p>IGA Kraklkrisp WHEAT FLAKES 2 10-Oz. Pkgs. 19c</p>	<p>Canned Foods</p> <p>IGA FANCY RED KIDNEY BEANS No. 1 Can RIPE'N RAGGED HOME STYLE Large Can APRICOTS Large Can WHOLE GRAIN COUNTRY GENTLEMEN No. 1 Can IGA CORN No. 1 Can IGA PURE MEAT VIENNA SAUSAGE 2 No. 1 Cans IGA FANCY LIGHT MEAT TUNA FISH Cans</p> <p>Household Needs</p> <p>CAMAY SOAP 3 Cake TUMBLER IN EACH PACKAGE IGA SOAP FLAKES Large Packag OLD DUTCH CLEANSER 2 Can ANTI-SNEEZE RINSO Giant Package 57c Large Package</p>	

FIGURE 3.9 ADS OF YESTERDAY

RESTAURANT

Having moved to our new location in the room formerly occupied by the Farmers Savings Bank, we are better prepared than ever to cater to the wants of the people of Stanhope and vicinity.

Lunches and Short Orders a Specialty

Pop, Box Candies, Fruits and Canned Goods of all kinds, Ice Cream and Soda Water.

(Give us a call and be convinced.)

KEPLER BROS.

SPECIALS for 10 days only
STARTING APRIL 12TH

17 pairs Boys' Dress and Work Shoes, sizes 3 to 5, choice \$1.15
Men's Khaki Trousers, all sizes, \$2.99 and \$2.25 values, \$1.97
\$1.50 values 97c

JACOBSON & NELSON
"Clothiers" Stanhope, Iowa

"Plenty of People Have a Good Aim in Life. But They Never Pull the Trigger."

We've Pulled the Trigger!

Our February Cash Refund Offer is in full swing. One good turn deserves another. It's now up to YOU to get and SAVE the duplicate sales slips issued here and derive the benefit.

IVERSON BROS. & CO.

P. S.—New Spring Silk Dresses at \$12.85, \$14.65, \$14.85, \$15.00 and \$16.87 now on display. They are beautiful styles, materials and patterns and it's a pleasure to show them. Come in!


Stanhope, Iowa - 1936

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SPECIALS

SUGAR, 10 lbs.	49c
BILL PICKLES, quart jar ..	15c
PORK & BEANS, can	5c
I.G.A. CAKE FLOUR, pkg.	25c


BUTTER-NUT COFFEE

1 lb.	29c
2 lbs.	57c



P&G SOAP, 10 jumbo bars	38c
GOLD DUST, large pkg.	18c
MAGIC WASHER	
2-10c size pkgs.	11c
CORN, 3 No. 2 cans	25c
PEAS, No. 2 can	10c
RAISINS, 3 lbs.	25c
PRUNES, No. 10 can	29c
CHERRIES, No. 10 can	49c

1 lb. can	19c
3 lb. can	55c



Don't risk health!
Use Crisco—the digestible shortening

EXTRA SPECIAL

1 lge. pkg. I.G.A.	
WASHING POWDER	15c
1-15c size pkg. DREFT	1c
Both For	16c

Phone 15
N. H. NELSON
Member I. G. A.

FIGURE 3.9 (CONT.)

Messages were sent to Stratford and Jewell for their fire departments. The Stratford department was the first to arrive, the one from Jewell coming in on a special a little later. However, the fire had spent its force and there was nothing they could do. The night had completely transformed \$25,000 worth of property into a dozen ash piles. There was about \$10,000 worth of insurance on the buildings. The total loss was about \$15,000.

Instead of setting down to mourn, they sat down to figure. Soon a correspondence was opened with Chraystie and Jacobson, contractors. They hardly waited for the ground to cool before beginning to arrange for the new building. All through the bleak winter months they worked. Digging frozen dirt; working with hot mortar, delayed by storm and blizzard, but in spite of all this three new buildings were completed and the keys delivered on March 1, 1906, three months and thirteen days from the fire.

Dick and Branch were moving; Thoreson's drugs were arriving. Wilson and Kepler had not yet taken possession when once more the night was made hideous by the frantic cry of "Fire, Fire, the town's burning." The phones rang, women screamed and pounded on doors--soon the whole town was awake and on the field of action. This time it was the east side of the street that was burning. The fire caught in the post office about 3:00 and spread in both directions rapidly. A bucket brigade was organized and plenty of water was at hand. The men learned from experience and fought to better purpose than before. Some carried things from the buildings they saw to be doomed; others fought the red-tongued destroyers. There was a high wind and the air was full of mist; the burning shingles flew blocks through the air, lighting on the Dan Knight house and barn, and the house and barn of Ellis Brewer. They watched closely and put out the fire whenever it caught and prevented any damage. The fire spread so that the whole east side was burning at once.

So well did the men work that they conquered the fire when it had destroyed one side of Hove Brothers & Mathre's south warehouse. Not until the sun was reddening the eastern sky did the battle cease.

The total loss this time was \$20,000 with \$10,000 of insurance, leaving a net loss of \$10,000. The fires in less than four months destroying \$45,000 worth of business property, three-quarters of the business houses of the town would kill a town that was not made up of brave enterprising spirits.

Once more pencil and paper were brought into use. About April first, Chraystie and Jacobson started again. The weather was favorable this time and the work went fast. The buildings were for Alf Berggren, to be used as a restaurant, post office and printing office. Also a fine two-story chocolate colored brick building on the north corner of the square by Norman Myers. The lower story was occupied by the Stanhope Drug Company, basement for barber shop, and the second floor for living rooms. Three buildings were completed in due time; but before the carpenters were through, the masons had begun laying brick for the new Lutheran Church in the east end of town. Before this was finished the work on two other business houses on the east side was begun. These were the property of Williams, the harness man, and G. Stemple, the tinner. Stanhope's businessmen know a good thing when they see it, and they realize that Chraystie and Jacobson were the right men in the right place. The burned district had been completely transformed by the skilled work of these splendid workmen.

One morning just as the sun was coming up, a fellow who had imbibed sufficiently to quicken his wits was standing on the sidewalk looking at the new buildings and talking to Mr. Chraystie and the editor. He said that the council should petition for a change of name for the town. It should be called Chraystietown. All had realized that these men had done good work in the rebuilding of the little city. After the two buildings on the east side were completed, Fardal and Jacobson put a building between the one occupied by Swanson, Reilly and Ristrim, and Dick and Branch. The three first buildings, Dick and Branch; Thoreson and Wilson and Kepler, cost \$7,000; Berggren, \$1,600; Myers, \$7,000; Williams, \$1,000; Stemple, \$1,200; Fardal and Jacobson, \$2,500; the Lutheran Church, \$3,000; Oscar Brewer's new residence in the northwest part of town, \$1,500. Truly the spirit of improvement was abroad. The total cost of these was \$20,000.

Good prospects for a fine lot of work again next summer. In all likelihood, the three story hotel building spoken of will be started when work opens in the spring. There will be more to follow.

The merchants had never done more satisfactory work. The people were pleased with the enterprising spirit shown by the businessmen. Instead of saying, "Stanhope has burned, no use in going there," they have been true to the town that is true to them. Stanhope has a deserved reputation for being the best market around here.

* * * * *

*The town was small - about 275 people. One night about 1:00 a.m. and snowing perhaps nearly a foot on the ground already, the fire started. The most flames were from the west side of the street. It was a beautiful sight. One man, a barber, lived in the back of his shop. He had some \$165 in bills under his pillow which he got and got out fast. He put on some clothes, stepped out into the street, became frightened and return to get some belongings. He dropped the bills and picked up a pair of sox instead. Another man went into the hardware store and picked up a coal stove, and carried it out and set it in the middle of the road. Next day he had trouble lifting just one end of that same stove. Hot timbers went into the air, and some fell on our house (William Ewing Bute's home - 3 blocks from the fire). The folks used some water from the well to put it out. I guess it was six months later that the east side of main street caught fire. It was suspected that the fire was set in the outside slot of a mail box in one of the stores. Perhaps oil or kerosene was poured into the opening. When the west side burned out, the merchants on the east side let them move into their stores. When the east side burned, the west side merchants did the same.

* * * * *

**"Mary and Sevilla were twin daughters of Susannah Snyder in Ohio. When Mary was about 30 years old and still single, she came to visit our (Solomon's) family in Iowa (see Figure 3.10 for a picture taken at that time). She stayed so long that her sister Sevilla, with her husband John Dice and daughter Bertha, came to bring her home. Sevilla was very jealous of her husband and didn't want the Kepler girls or even her sister Mary to talk to him. So Mary Snyder, Lopedina, and I (Rhoda) made it hot for her. John was jolly good fun and so we made a "darkey" of him. Sevilla had spasms, she cussed us."

"One time Uncle William (youngest Kepler brother) visited us from Ohio. We all went to the Boone river. William broke open stones to show the children the petrified fish and other things inside. He took some stones back with him. He thought Delila was grand since she had been to school, while the other girls stayed home to work. He later sent her a leather covered book. We got nothing."

"Adam's wife was called "Lissie." They had three little graves in the garden. Lissie gave the children "soothing syrup." As a baby Otis had too much as, at times, they could hardly wake him up."

"Uncle Alfred would never look a person in the face, but we all liked him as he was good to us. Alfred's wife had the nickname "Lib" or "Libby." When they came to Stanhope they planted a beautiful grove of maples. Lissie and Lib often quarreled. They only lived across the road from each other and both families raised turkeys. Lissie one day decided that Libby stole her eggs so she tied a piece of red flannel on all her turkeys. The next morning Libby had red flannel on hers, too!

Aunt Lib had no control over the boys. Once when I visited them she had a gallon of pumpkin ready for pies. When she left the room each boy got a spoon. Aunt Lib chased them but they got hold of the rafters so she couldn't reach them. As soon as she left the room they were at the pumpkin again."

* * * * *

Homemade pie (the only kind in those days) was, of course, a rare treat. A favorite of the children, however, was a "pie" made with leftover pie crust called "cream pie"

* From a letter written by John Bute (3.2.1.1)

** Notes of Rhoda Gee (3.4) as reported by her daughter Adelaide in 1954. Mary was in Iowa in August of 1884; she was actually 27.



FIGURE 3.10 MARY C. SNYDER OF OHIO (AGE 27), DELILA (AGE 20),
WILLIAM LINCOLN (AGE 22) , PHOTO TAKEN AUG. , 1884 .

(usually made with milk). The original Pennsylvania Dutch recipe is given below. Try it!

Ingredients: 2 tbsp. flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cream

Mix and pour in unbaked pie shell. Sprinkle with cinnamon and nutmeg. Put in hot oven at 400°, bake 30 to 40 minutes.

Mary Cordelia Kepler Meredith used to make this from leftover pie crust for her children. The result is a thin pie resembling the base of pecan pie. Others have called this "sugar pie". The recipe can be doubled to give a thicker pie, if desired, but the sweetness is almost too much then. The original recipe called for milk rather than cream but that was in the days when milk came with cream in it.

Figure 3.11 illustrates the nature of "keeping house", the occupation listed on the U.S. Census for a farmer's wife in the 1800's. The following entries in Rosa Kepler Johnson's autograph book give some feel for the day-to-day life of a young girl growing up in Iowa in the late 1880's. Of note is the spelling and curlicue handwriting, the emphasis on religion, the role of poetry in education, and the fact that Rosa's teachers considered themselves to be the student's friend also. Apparently, Rosa herself was a teacher later in life (1894). The humor in the writings is refreshing, with even some sarcasm on occasion--but then, what else were cousins for in those days?



FIGURE 3.11 "KEEPING HOUSE" IN THE 1800's

1-22-90

When one's brain is clear and bright,
How quick examples come out right;
But when "La Grippe" has us in grasp
Examples then are quite a task.

Chas Whitaker Jr.

1-22-90

When one's brain is clear and bright,
How quick examples come out right;
But when "La Grippe" has us in grasp
Examples then are quite a task

Chas Whitaker Jr.

Sep 26th/85 Webster City, Iowa.

I would write better if I could.
But Nature said I never should.

Your Schoolmate,

Sep 26th/85 Webster City, Iowa

I would write better if I could
But Nature said I never should.

Ida Brockschink

Your Schoolmate, Ida Brockschink

Webster City
Iowa
Feb. 10 1886

Dear Rosa
Happy may you be happy in your life
Happy is the little man have got you for a wife
your friend and schoolmate

Josephine Robbins

Webster City Iowa
Feb. 10 1886

Dear Rosa
Happy may you be happy in your life
Happy is the little man have got you for a wife
Your friend and schoolmate
Josephine Robbins

Love me little love me long,
Do not flirt for it is wrong

Love me little love me long,
Do not flirt for it is wrong

Blanche Brock
Williams
Ia

Blanche Brock
Williams
Ia

The older the tree,
the harder the bark.
The older the girl,
The harder to spark.

Feb 25, 1895
Lester Tuttle

The older the tree,
the harder the bark.

The older the girl,
The harder to spark.

Feb 25 Lester Tuttle

Dear Rosa;-

When you are married
Live at your ease,
Get a good husband
And do as you please.

Yours Affectionately,

Sallie Barger
Des Moines Iowa

Dear Rosa;

When you are married
Live at your ease,
Get a good husband
And do as you please.

Yours Affectionately,

Sallie Barger

Des Moines Iowa!

Dear friend

Webster City Ia.

Remember me And Far

Away And Only Half

Awake Remember me on

Your wedding day.

And send me a slice of

cake. Dora A Albright 1884

Remember me among the Riches

When I am at home washing dishes

Remember me among the Riches
When I am at home washing dishes

From Minnie Bruseou To Rosy Kepler

From Minnie Bruseou

Rosy Kepler

B.K.

Webster City May 15th 1886

Friend Rose:

Ever Rosie be the same.
Change in nothing, but your name.
When you see a nice young man,
Try and get him if you can.

Your sincere friend
Estella I. Beaseau

E.I.B.

R.K.

Webster City May 15, 18(8?)6

Friend Rose:

Ever Rosie be the same.
Change in nothing but your name.
When you see a nice young man.
Try and get him if you can.

Your Sincere friend
Estella I. Beaseau

EIB

When this you see remember me
But first find out who I be
I Duno

When this you see remember me
But first find out who I be

I Duno

Dec 41st 1901 R+B Ky, Ia.

Dec 41st 1901 R+B Ky, Ia.

Stanhope Iowa
 June 20th / 1894
 Pastime Chum,

2 + U R
 2 + U B
 I say U R
 2 + 4 me

Stanhope Iowa
 June 20th, 1894
 Pastime Chum,

(Too cross you are)
 (Too cross you be)
 (I say you are)
 (Too cross for me)

Espe G. Bute

Espe G. Bute

(Espe was almost a cousin to Rosa. Four years after writing this he was hit in the head while playing baseball and died)

Rosys are red and
 violets are blue and
 sugar is sweet but
 you are sour.

F. M. B.

Rosys are red and
 violets are blue and
 sugar is sweet but
 you are sour.

F. M. B.

(Sounds like another Bute "cousin".)

Dear Teacher:

Remember me is all I ask
When other friends shall greet thee.
And if remembrance is a task,
Oh then, oh then, forget me.

Feb. 22nd, 1895 Alice Tuttle

Dear Teachers

Remember me is all I ask.
When other friends shall greet thee.
And if remembrance is a task,
Oh then, oh then, forget me.

Feb. 22nd 1895.

Alice Tuttle

Stanhope Ia
July 5 1895

Dear Rosa:

You ask me to write in your Album
I hardly know where to begin
There's nothing original in me
Except original sin

Your Friend
Alice Peterson

Stanhope Ia
July 5 1892

Dear Rosa:

You ask me to write in your album
I hardly know where to begin
There's nothing original in me
Except original sin

Your Friend
Alice Peterson

Forget me not

Forget me not

Stanhope Ia
July 1 1892

Dear Rosa

May your joy be as deep as the ocean,
And your sorrow as light as the foam.

Stanhope Ia
July 1 1892

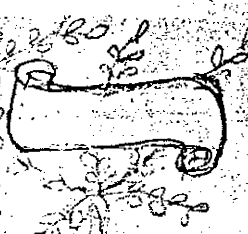
Dear Rosa

May your joy be as deep as the ocean,
And your sorrow as light as the foam.

Yours Truly
Ollie Hanson

Yours Truly
Ollie Hanson

Stanhope Iowa
June 6th 1894



Dear teacher
May all the blessings God can give
Be yours my friend as long as you live
And when in death you close your eyes
May angels bear you to the skies
Is the wish of your friend

Olive Ferguson

Remember well and bear in mind
a faithful friend is hard to find

Stanhope Iowa June 6th 1894

Dear teacher

May all the blessings God can give
Be yours my friend as long as you live
And when in death you close your eyes
May angels bear you to the skies

Is the wish of your friend
Olive Ferguson

Remember well and
bear in mind
A faithful friend
is hard to find

July 15th 1884.

Remember me
When the sun goes down,
A little girl dressed in a calico gown,
yours Truly,

Webster City Iowa

Mattie Allbright

July 15th, 1884

Remember me
When the sun goes down,
A little girl dressed in a calico gown.

Yours Truly,

Webster City Iowa

Mattie Allbright

Miss Rosa
A year untried before you lie
What shall it bring of strange surprise
Or joy or grief I cannot tell;
But God, my Father, knoweth well.
I make it no concern of mine,
But leave it all with love divine.
From your Sunday School Teacher
J. Q. A. Miller

Sep 29th, 1891

Webster City

Miss Rosa

A year untried before you lies,
What shall it bring of strange surprise
Or joy, of grief, I cannot tell;
But God, my Father, knoweth well.
I make it no concern of mine,
But leave it all with love divine.
From your Sunday School Teacher
J. Q. A. Miller

Stanhope Iowa 94

June 18.

My Teacher

Remember me early

Remember me late

Remember me at the golden gate
the school

Minnie Isaacson

Stanhope Iowa 94
June 18

My Teacher

Remember me early
Remember me late
Remember me at the golden gate
the school

Minnie Isaacson

To Rose:-

The Present, the Present is all that thou hast,
For thy sure possessing;
Like the Patriarch's angel hold it fast
Till it gives its blessing.
J.G. Whittier

Your friend and teacher,

May 31, 1889

Stella Tuttle

To Rose:-

The Present, the Present is all that thou hast,
For thy sure possessing;
Like the Patriarch's angel hold it fast
Till it gives its blessing.

J.G. Whittier -

Your friend and teacher,

Stella Tuttle.

May 31, 1889

July 7th 1893

Dear Teacher when you leave this school from
your play and pranks

Remember your mischievous Frank

Yours truly

Frank C Gearhart

July 7th 1893

Dear Teacher: When you leave this school from your play and pranks
Remember your mischievous Frank

Yours truly
Frank C Gearhart

Webster City 128, 1887

Dear Rose

You are the best scholar in school
when you can spell them all
down so go home happy
to night

Webster City 1/28, 1887

Dear Rose

You are the best scholar in school
When you can spell them all down
so go home happy to night.

Your frind,
John Malone

Your frind,

John Malone

Webster City Iowa.
April 20. 1884.

Think of me now,
Think of me ever,
Think of the time.
When we set to gether.

Webster City Iowa
April 20, 1884

Think of me now,
Think of me ever,
Think of the time,
When we set to gether.

Rosy M. Albright

Rosy M. Albright.

Chapter Four

NEW FAMILIES

Webster City, IA
June 9, 1891

Dear Rosa

One by one the chairs stand vacant
That were filled with those we love
One by one the seats are filling
In our father's house above.

Remember me,
Lizzie Smith

By 1885, photography had advanced from daguerreotype to wet plates, Webster City had grown large enough to support a photographer, and the Kepler families were now wealthy enough to indulge in such an extravagance. About the same time, Susannah, Mary, and William's families in Ohio also were having their pictures taken. This chapter documents those Kepler families with family charts, pictures, writings, stories, obituaries, and autographs.

The families are identified by numbers, with the oldest child being denoted by 1 and their oldest child by 1.1, and so on. The initial numbering starts with Susannah as 1 and is shown in George and Catharine's family chart in Figure 4.1. The names used in the family charts are, as best we know, the legal names of the family members. As discussed in the Preface, it was common in those days to alter spellings, to name a child after a favorite sibling or other relative that had recently died, to "shorten" foreign names, and so on.

In the family charts, we denote adopted children by an (a.). We also attempt to maintain blood lines, so divorces and remarriages may not be noted unless children resulted from the marriage, or it is the current last name of a person listed in the Appendix. Marriages are shown by a +(), the date of marriage being within the parentheses. Dates at the beginning and end of a name indicate the birth and death dates. If one date is shown by ? this means that we know of the death (or birth) but not when. Within a date, the ? means we don't know the month, day, or year, depending on the placement of the ?. In a few cases, we have indicated the locations of birth, death, or burial, but in general, room has not allowed for the inclusion of this much detail. To save further space we frequently use a dot (.) in place of last names-- refer to the father's last name in these cases. If dates, names, etc. are in conflict, this is usually noted at the bottom of the chart or figure. The figure with greatest authority¹ is used in the charts.

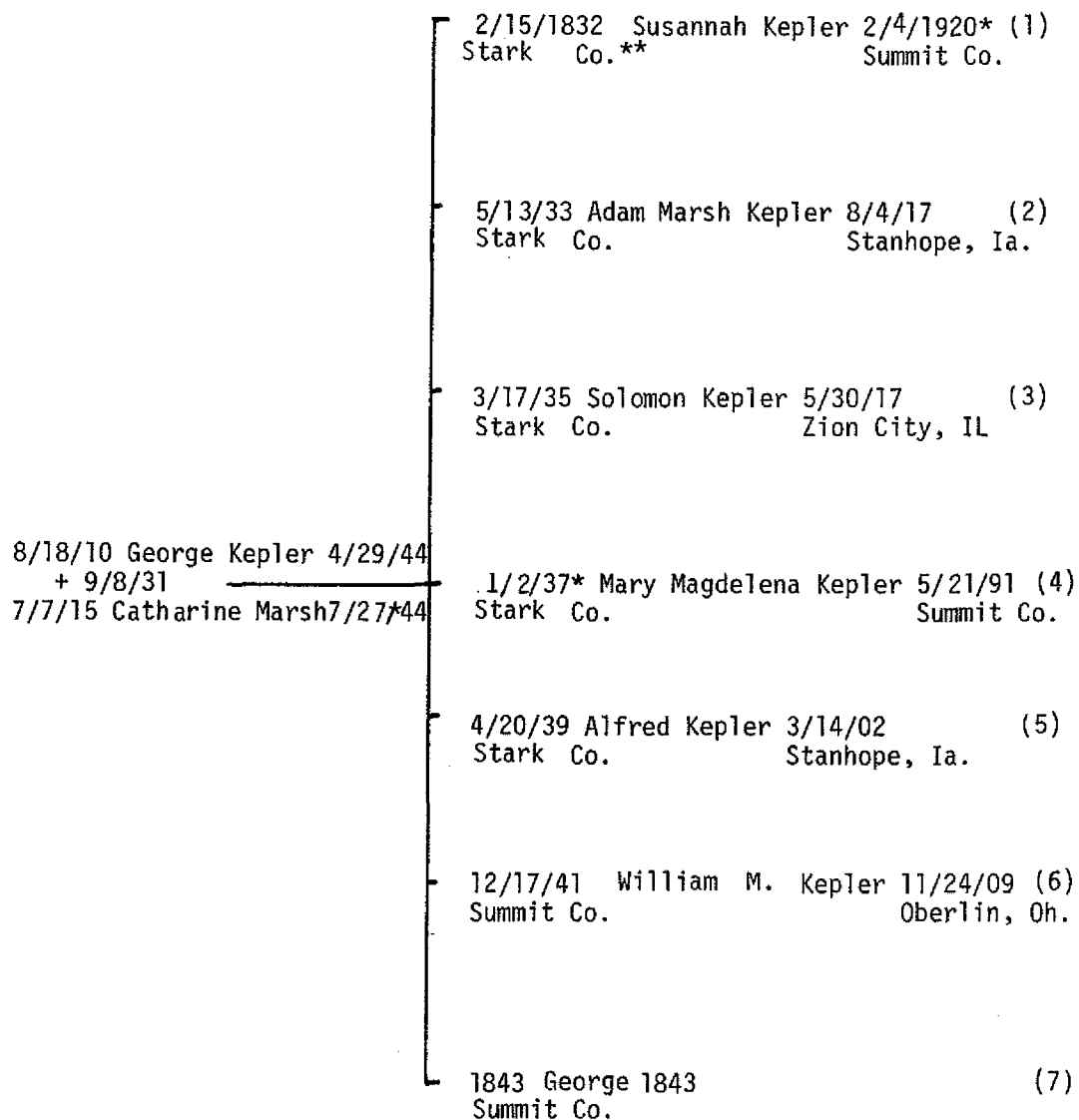
* * * * *

SUSANNAH

According to Doyle¹, Susannah was three years old when George and Catharine moved to Coventry Township from Green Township. George cleared the land almost completely by the time of his premature death and had built a log cabin and barn. At the age of thirteen, Susannah went to live under the guardianship of her grandparents, the Marsh's, returning to the farm upon her marriage to George eleven years later. At the age of 15, on Oct. 23, 1847, she joined the German Reformed Church. John George Snyder (spelled "Schneider" on his and Susannah's tombstone) was born in Germany and came to America with his parents, Michael and Barbara Snyder and brothers and sisters Michael, Eve, Frederick, and Julia Ann, when he was eleven (the oldest child). He stayed at home until he married Susannah and then worked her farm (of size 178 acres in 1908), originally that of George and Catharine's which, we presume, she inherited. A picture of George and Susannah in September, 1876 is shown in Figure 4.2.

The family picture of Susannah is shown in Figure 4.3 and the chart and 1880 census of her family in Figures 4.4 and 4.5. The picture appears to have been taken when Ella was about 14 and Harvey (later on a physician) about 16 which would place the date in about 1885. The eldest children are the twins Mary (also shown in Figure 3.10) and Sevilla on the left at

1. See the Preface for reference sources.



Notes: * New dates based on gravestones; dates in first edition were:
Susannah: 2/?/20; Mary b. 11/8/36, d. 5/19/91; Catharine 7/24/44
** Summit Co. formed out of Stark Co. in 1840

FIGURE 4.1 GEORGE AND CATHARINE'S FAMILY CHART

311



FIGURE 4.2 GEORGE & SUSANNAH
IN SEPT., 1876

5836

Snyder George
(HEAD OF FAMILY)

OHIO

VOL 61 E.D. 169

SHEET 42 LINE 37

W M 53

(CITY) (COUNTY) (STATE) (BIRTHPLACE) (MARRIAGE)

Summit Lawrence Ind

OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY

NAME	RELATION- SHIP	AGE	BIRTHPLACE
<u>Snyder Susan</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>Ohio</u>
<u>Mary</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Ohio</u>
<u>- Solomon</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>Ohio</u>
<u>- Edward</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>Ohio</u>
<u>- George</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>Ohio</u>

1880 CENSUS - INDEX
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

su #2

4-10
BULLET PRINTING CO. NEW YORK 2-12 1880-1885

Snyder George
(HEAD OF FAMILY - CONTINUED)

STATE Ohio

OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY - CONTINUED

NAME	RELATION- SHIP	AGE	BIRTHPLACE
<u>Snyder Charles</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>Ohio</u>
<u>- Harvey</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>Ohio</u>
<u>- Ellen</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>Ohio</u>

1880 CENSUS - INDEX
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

su #1

4-10
BULLET PRINTING CO. NEW YORK 2-12 1880-1885

FIGURE 4.5 1880 CENSUS



FIGURE 4.3 SUSANNAH'S FAMILY (Seated left: Sevilla,
father George, mother Susannah, Charles. Standing left:
Mary, Harvey, Houston, Ella, Solomon, George Albert) Circa. 1885

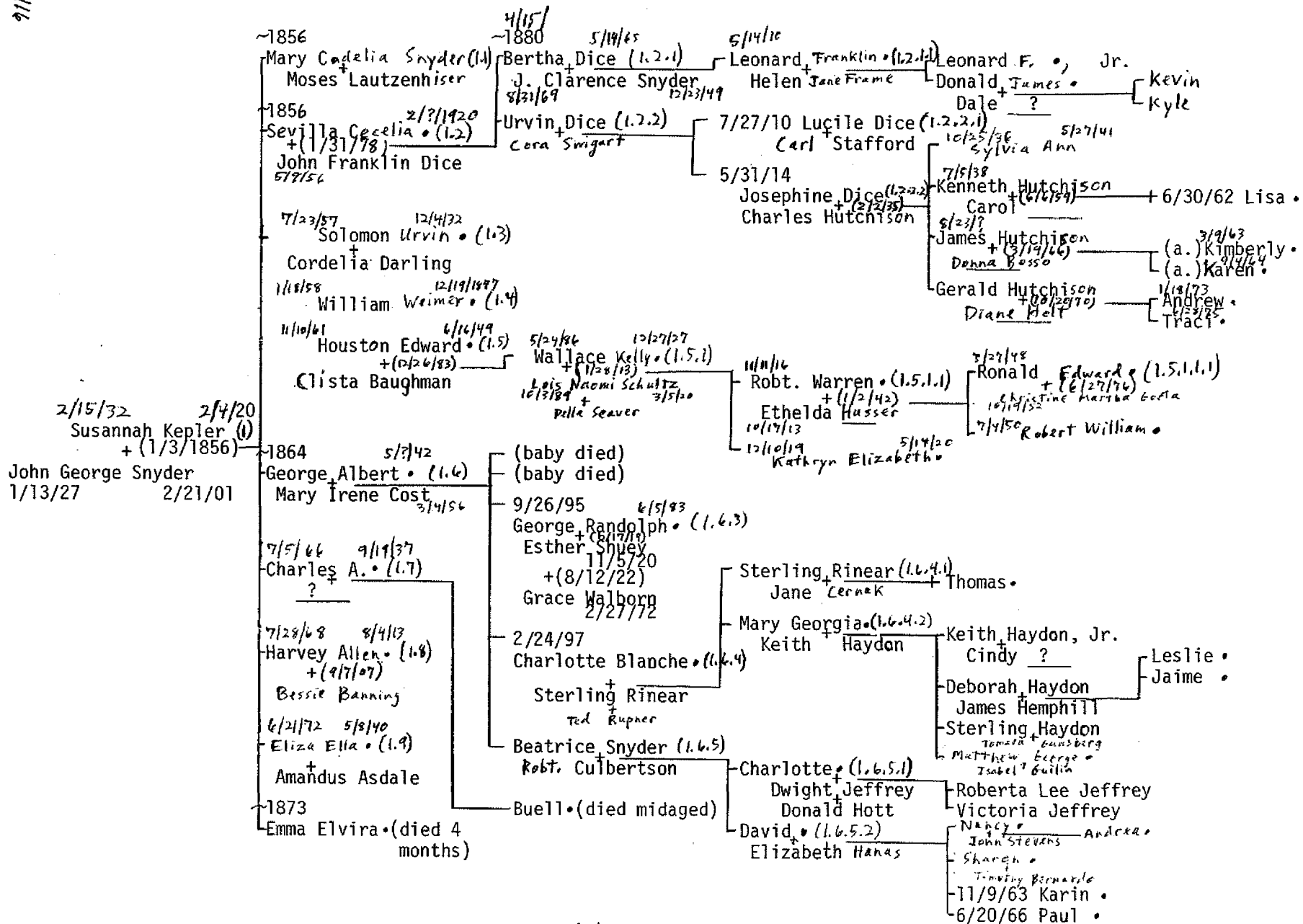


FIGURE 4.4 SUSANNAH'S FAMILY CHART

ages of about 28. Note that Sevilla was married to John Dice at this time (married about six years already and a mother), hence her more luxurious dress. (See their picture in Figure 4.5 and their and Mary's autographs in Figure 4.6)

The girls do not look like identical twins here but see Figure 4.7, which clearly shows that they were. Note the standard "pose" in those days of Mary's hand on Sevilla's arm. (We can only wonder if Sevilla has by this time, a year later, forgiven Mary for the Iowa prank.) A later picture of Sevilla taken about 1906 showing four generations in Susannah's family is in Figure 4.8.

A letter from Solomon (minister in the Reformed Church) in Figure 4.9 gives some feel for the strength of religion in those days. Actually, both Solomon (with the mustache) and even tall Houston Edward (a farmer) may have been married at the time this family photograph was taken. This means, of course, that the sons and daughters had to make a special trip back to "home" to have this photograph taken. George Albert, standing on the far right, also became a minister and Charles, seated in front of him, became a farmer.

William, Figure 4.10, the second eldest son, is missing from the picture because he died in an accident at the age of 19, about six years before this picture was taken. Also missing, of course, is Emma who died at the age of four months. Other comments about the chart:

- * Other sources give Susannah's birthdate as 3/17/32 but the dates shown here are from her gravestone.
- * Mary, Solomon, Harvey, and Ella had no children.
- * Sevilla died in the 1920 influenza epidemic.
- * Sevilla's son Urvin married Cora Swigart, the daughter of Sophia (Kepler) Swigart. Sophia was the daughter of Jacob A. Kepler and Christiana Herschberger, Jacob being Andrew's son.
- * William's birth date comes too soon after Solomon's, but his gravestone lists his death date and age (19 years, 11 months, 1 day). Perhaps he was "almost 19", in which case he would have been born in January, 1859.
- * Bertha's husband, Clarence Snyder, was not related to Susannah's husband John George Snyder. And neither was related to the Snyder's who married Adam's daughters in Iowa.
- * Ella and Amandus farmed for many years and then moved into Barberton (near Akron) where Amandus worked as a "draughtsman" (draftsman).
- * Doyle refers to Moses Lautzenhiser as Loutzenheiser, Urvin Dice as Irving, and Amandus Asdale as M. Asdale.

Following is a note and picture (Figure 4.11) received from Dr. George R. Snyder (1.6.1) in July, 1981, two years before he died.

My father, Dr. George Albert Snyder, kept in touch with Uncle William Kepler (Ed. note: 6). When my grandfather Snyder died in 1901, Uncle William took part in the funeral service.

During my college years at Heidelberg in Tiffin, Ohio and my Theological Seminary years in Dayton, I spent some vacation days with Grandmother Snyder and her



FIGURE 4.5 SEVILLA AND JOHN DICE



FIGURE 4.7 SEVILLA AND MARY-- SEPT., 1876

Remember me and I will you
when our days are ended
we will meet one another
up there in heaving
Nimissila Ohio J. F. Dice
Summit County

Remember me and I will you
when our days are ended
we will meet one another
up there in heaving

Nimissila Ohio
Summit County

J F Dice

FIGURE 4.6 AUTOGRAPHS FROM ROSA KEPLER JOHNSON'S
AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Dear Cousin

Old Time ~~if~~ will end our story
But no Time if we end well
Will end our glory

Cevillias C. Dice

Dear Cousin

Old time will end our story
But no time if we end well
Will end our Glory

Cevillias C. Dice

Aug 18, 1884

Aug 18, 1884

Dear Cousin-

Dear Cousin:-

Forget me not,
Forget me never,
For yonder Sun
Is set forever

Forget me not,
Forget me never,
For yonder Sun
Is set forever,

Mary C. Snyder

Summit Co. Ohio

Mary C. Snyder

Summit Co.

Ohio

FIGURE 4.6 (CONT.)



FIGURE 4.8 SUSANNAH, BERTHA, SEVILLA, AND
BABY LEONARD (CIRCA 1906)



FIGURE 4.10 WILLIAM WEIMER SNYDER (SEPT 1876)



FIGURE 4.11 GEORGE R., GEORGIA, STERLING,
CHARLOTTE, BEATRICE (1981)

FIGURE 4.9 SOLOMON SNYDER'S LETTER TO DELILA

#2902 Wayne Avenue, Dayton, Ohio. February 10th 1912.

Mrs. Delila Mute,
Starhorne, Ia.

My Dear Cousin: It is about time for me to write you a letter again. I believe the last one I wrote was in October, at which time I said that I was about to call on a family, with the intention of winning all of them for the Church. Well they are all in the Church now and are becoming useful members. We are just now in the midst of Revival Services and are interested in about 75 people in our immediate vicinity who are not christians. The thought comes to us, often in wonderful force, "Is it possible that there are so many right around the churches who know not God and seemingly do not care whether they do or not." I am praying now for these people, asking the Almighty God to make each one feel the awfulness of a lost soul, and cause each of them to cry out from the very depths "What must I do to be saved?" Paul says "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord." Yes God alone can save, but we must show a heartfelt interest in them, first.

I have had some experience recently on the lecture platform. I gave my lecture, entitled "Quo Vadis" three times, this winter. --Twice here in the city and once in a little town of about 2000 some 18 miles from here. You remember that it was my intention about ten years ago to give this very lecture in your town, but at the last moment took down with the La grippe. I remember it real well.

You are doubtless aware that next Thursday, February 15th. my mother's eightieth birthday anniversary will take place if she lives until then. It is the intention of having all the children, grand children, and great grandchildren, come home and spend Sunday, February 18th. together. This will be very nice if all can get together. I will have to travel about 200 miles and Bro. Albert nearly 400 miles. Why could not some, or all of our Iowa Kith make a visit at the same time to the land of child hood days? This would be fine. You had better make up your mind and come and bring as many along as possible.

I have enjoyed better health than fell to my lot this last week. I have had rheumatism and with all the nursing I gave, am not rid of it at this writing. I am thinking that this is one of the familiar afflictions in the family. Mother has frequently been troubled with it and now feels it's effects. My brother Harvey, the Doctor, knows also what it is. Yes I think that every one of us can talk about it from experience. How is Your health and that of the family? Hope that the Lord is very good to You. Let me hear from you soon. With best wishes and kindest regards.

Sincerely, S. U. Snyder

daughter (my Aunt Ella) as my parents then lived in Maryland. From Grandmother's reports at the breakup of the home following the parents death, William was sent along with Susannah to the Adam Marsh home. The Marsh's were the parents of Catharine. A close relationship continued on through life and my Grandmother always kept an elderly sister feeling of closeness to William. She was 12 and he was 3 when they moved into their grandparent's home and that meant that she had much to do in caring for the boy's needs. On one occasion when I was home from China my father took me to call on Winifred Kepler (Ed. note: 6.4) in Oberlin and we had a good visit.

The enclosed picture from the left is myself, then Georgia Rinear Haydon (1.6.2.2), then Sterling Rinear (1.6.2.1), then sister Charlotte (1.6.2), and Beatrice (1.6.3).

Below is a note from Robert W. Snyder (1.5.1.2) commenting on the old farmhouse of Susannah and George (Figure 4.12, also see Figure 4.106, taken on the back porch many years previously).

As to the Tomsik (Ed. note: present owners) home-- it was the old home of our family. I visited there quite a few times with my grandfather (Ed. note: Houston) as Uncle Solomon had purchased it after his retirement from the ministry and he lived there until his death. It as not the original home however. My grandfather said when he was a boy the home was a log house and when he would awaken on a winter morning snow would have come in through the logs and it would be really cold getting up. It was during his boyhood that the home you saw was built (Ed. note: by John George Snyder). I feel sure the farm was originally the Kepler farm and that it did belong to my great-grandmother, Susannah Kepler Snyder.

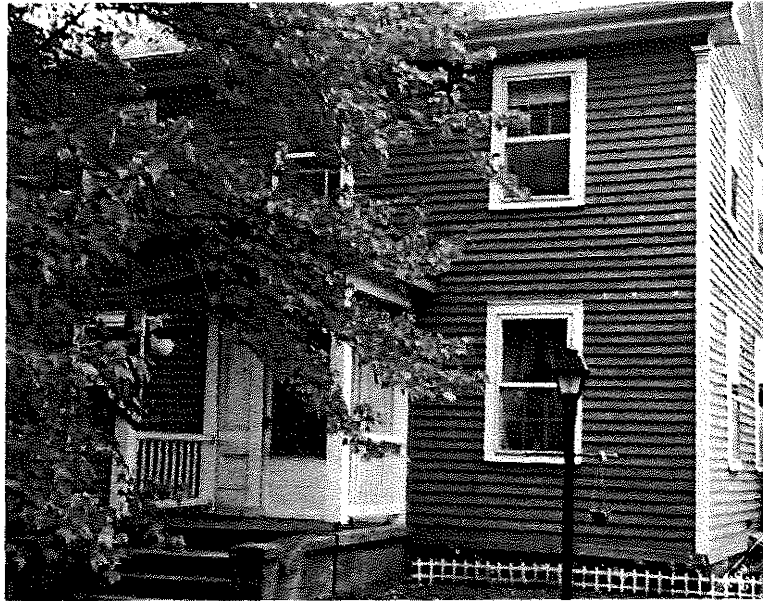
My wife has typed some information which we compiled from my grandfather's big family Bible and many other clippings and documents that we have. As a matter of interest, I have the passport of Michael Schneider (Susannah's father-in-law). We also have Susannah's birth and baptism certificate.

ADAM

The family chart of Adam and 1880 Census listing are given in Figure 4.13, pictures of his family in Figures 4.14 (provided by Bess Walterick) and 4.15 (provided by Erma Jane Weaver), and autographs in Figure 4.16. The descendents of Adam are given in individual family charts and pictures as well.

Adam's Iowa farm land, before he moved into Stanhope, was along the east bank of the Boone River, four miles or so south of Webster City at or near a place later known as Sarotoga. A post office was once there from 1875-1880 but nothing remains today². All the children were born on the farm and in 1882 Adam moved into town (the "village" it was called then). Adam

2. Erma Jane Weaver reports that the Saratoga buildings were located at the corner road near the cemetery, four miles north of Stanhope. The cemetery is west of the road and surrounded by trees.



SOUTH (STREET) SIDE OF SUSANNAH'S HOUSE (NOW TOMSIK FARM)



NORTH (FARM, BACK) SIDE OF HOUSE, PROBABLY SAME SITE AS
GEORGE AND CATHARINE'S CABIN. SAME PORCH AS FIGURE 4.106 (?)
IF SO, BACK ROOM ENLARGED OUT TO BACK DOOR.

FIGURE 4.12 SUSANNAH'S HOUSE

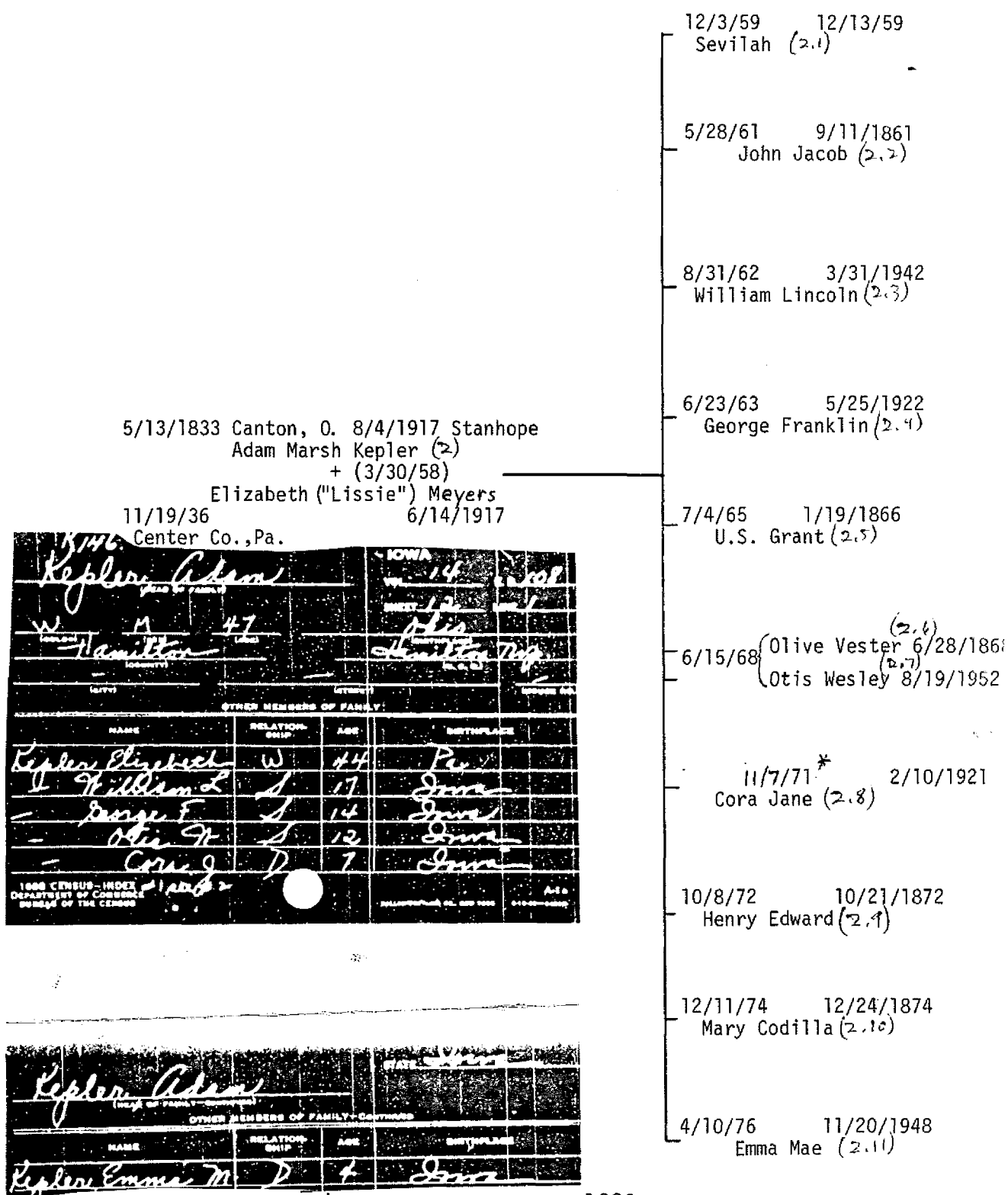


FIGURE 4.13 ADAM'S FAMILY CHART AND 1880 CENSUS

* Other dates given as 11/9 and 11/17; also, year as 72 (which agrees with census)
Data shown from Agnes Tjernagel, her daughter.



Emma Snyder - Grandpa - Uncle Will - my Dad - Cora
Kepler

Nov. 1884

FIGURE 4.14 ADAM'S FAMILY PICTURE (NOV., 1884)



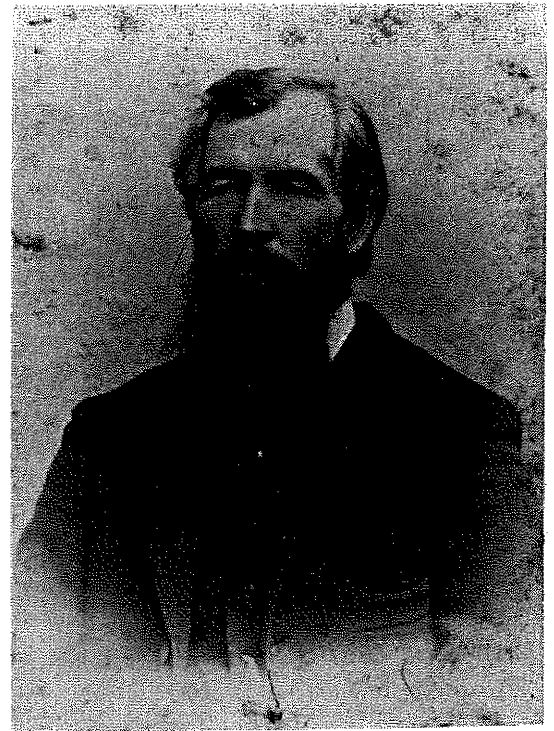
William Frank



Emma Mae with groom Andy



"Lissie"



Adam

FIGURE 4.15 ADAM'S FAMILY PICTURE

Stanhope Iowa Aug 23, 1884

Dear

Redeemed of the Lord will rise
 On spiritual wings, to meet the Savior in the skye
 Shining as the butiful angels of light
 Around the throne, so butiful and bright
 Kept on spiritual bread of of Eternal life
 Ever more to be fed in that pure land of light
 Princes there forever we we will be
 Loving ones there will never Sever
 Evermore to be with our dear Savior
 Round the eternal throne forever
 From your uncle Adam Kepler

Stanhope Iowa Aug 23, 1884

Dear

Redeemed of the Lord will rise
 On spiritual wings to meet the Savior in the skye,
 Shining as the butiful angels of light
 Around the throne, so butiful and bright
 Kept on spittitual bread of of Eternal life
 Ever more to be fed in that pure land of light
 Princes there forever we we will be
 Loving ones there will never Sever
 Evermore to be with our dear Savior
 Round the eternal throne forever
 From your uncle Adam Kepler

FIGURE 4.16 ADAM'S AUTOGRAPH FROM ROSA KEPLER JOHNSON'S
 AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Feb 15 1885
 Stanhope Iowa
 Acrostic in ryme

Always may you do well
 Dear niece. And may you
 Always try your best to excell
 My advice is to you
 Ever on Jesus name do depend
 Precious name the good will say
 Love him truly to the end
 Eternal hapiness and joy
 Reserved for you to injoy.

Affectionately
 yours
 in this
 Acrostic

Feb 15 1885
 Stanhope Iowa
 Acrostic in ryme

Always may you do well	Keep in the good way
Dear niece. And may you	Ever on Jesus name do depend
Always try your best to excell	Precious name the good will say
My advice is to you	Love him truly to the end
	Eternal hapiness and joy
	Reserved for you to injoy.

Affectionately yours in this Acrostic

FIGURE 4.16 (CONT.) ADAM'S AUTOGRAPH FROM DELILA KEPLER
 BUTE'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Stanhope. Iowa. February 21st. 1885.

Ever think of me.
Love and friendship
In this accrostic see.
Zealous and intrinsic
Are my affections
Beloved to you.
Eminently make your selection
To one true to you.
Honorable and temperate too.

Know me as your friend /
Ever wishing you well.
Peaceable happy and content
Like Angels that in heaven dwell.
Ever willing the savior to obey.
Redeemed than always you can say

Lissie K. Kepler

Yours
in this
affectionately
accrostic

Stanhope Iowa February 21st, 1885

Ever think of me.
Love and friendship
In this accrostic see.
Zealous and intrinsic
Are my affections
Beloved to you.
Eminently make your selection
To one true to you.
Honorable and temperate too.

Know me as your friend.
Ever wishing you well.
Peaceable happy and content
Like Angels that in heaven dwell.
Ever willing the savior to obey.
Redeemed than always you can say.

Lissie Kepler Yours affectionately in this accrostic

FIG. 4.16 (CONT.) ADAM'S WIFE'S AUTOGRAPH FROM DELILA KEPLER BUTE'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

was very civic-minded and participated actively in the affairs of the young community. He was a member of the local school board and started the Sunday School of the new Methodist Episcopal Church. His 50th wedding anniversary was written up in the 1908 papers and reviewed his efforts in these endeavors (Figure 4.17). About 1910 Adam suffered a stroke which paralyzed his left side, leaving him an invalid for the rest of his life.

There was a considerable amount of family-to-family marriages in those days and some of this occurred in Adam's family also. One instance involved the Snyder brothers, Ed and Andy, who married Adam's daughters Cora and Emma Mae. As related by Elmer Snyder, Emma's son, the brothers' father Abe Snyder died at the young age of 35 of a heart attack while plowing. They were raised by their older sister, Elizabeth, who married an Emmett Reilly and had a son Victor and a daughter Gertrude.³

Another family that married into Adam's was that of the Bute's. James Madison Bute moved into the Stanhope area in 1870, bringing with him from his first marriage Elizabeth Ann, 26, and his second wife, Cynthia Lutetia Black, and children: Samuel Chalfont, 16; Alcestra, 15; William Ewing, 11 (who later married Solomon's daughter Delila); George M., 8; Amanda Arabelle ("Belle"), 6; and Ida Mae ("Mae"), 2. Belle married George Franklin ("Frank") and Mae married his younger brother Otis Wesley. After James Bute, the father, died in 1885, Lutetia moved in with Belle and Frank, remaining with them until she died in 1903.

William Lincoln William's poem and autograph in Figure 4.18 were written on Valentine's Day when he was 21, two years before marrying Flora Belle Zenor. Apparently, he spent some time at blacksmithing. William's marriage to Flora Belle is variously reported as Oct. 8, 18, and sometimes 19. Shortly after marrying Flora Belle they moved to Curlew, Iowa where William operated a hardware store⁴. Sadly, their first child there died as an infant. They returned to Stanhope but stayed only about a year when they again moved to Spencer where he ran a creamery, did carpentry, and engaged in numerous other jobs. He was also with the Spencer Fire Department for 42 years. He had a good sense of humor, was a hard worker, and could figure anything out. He used to tell his children "What others can do, why with patience, shouldn't you?"

The picture in Figure 4.19 was taken about 1900, before Frederick was born. It is not known in the family chart (Figure 4.20) whether a child died in about 1899 or not, or in 1903 (such breaks in births in those times often being ominous in their meaning). After Flora Belle died at the young age of 34 in 1905, William Lincoln remarried, having one son Donald.

In Figure 4.20, Peter Flint's (2.3.3.2.2) birthdate was listed once as Dec. 22 and once as Nov. 22. The post-adoption of John Schmierer (2.3.3.1.1) was by Donald Gregg, his step-father.

3. Adelaide Gee's notes imply they were raised by Adam and his wife but this appears to be incorrect. The confusion probably stems from the fact that both Elizabeth and Adam's wife went by the nickname "Lissie".

4. Refer to The Bute's of Scotland by Erma Jane Weaver, 1980.

CELEBRATE THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING.

It is seldom that a couple lives together long enough to celebrate their golden wedding. Yet this happy wedding anniversary came to Mr. and Mrs. Adam Kepler last Monday, March 30. A large number of relatives and friends joined Mr. and Mrs. Kepler in celebrating their golden anniversary. An elegant dinner and supper was indulged in and they were the recipients of many beautiful presents. It will be fifty years this summer since they came to Hamilton county.

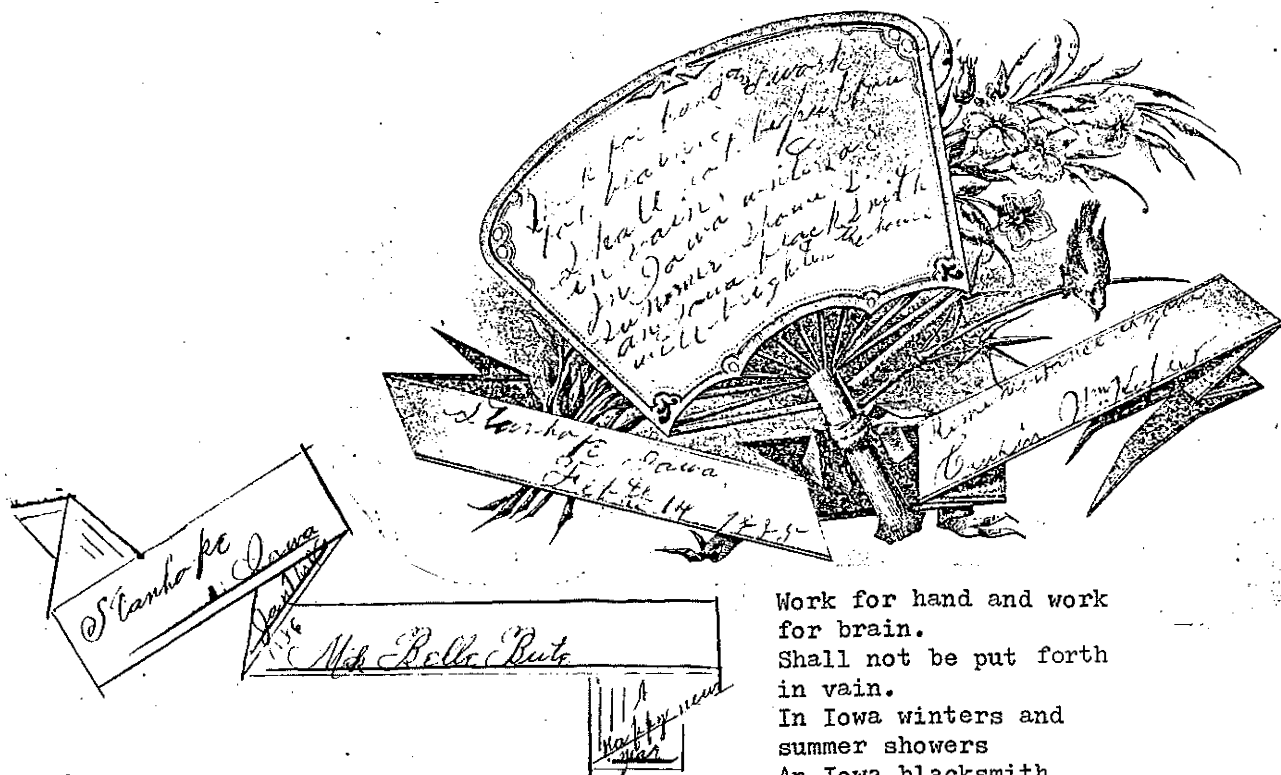
One of the unusual features of the day was, that the bride and groom of fifty years ago displayed the same clothes that they wore on their wedding day. Mrs. Kepler's dress was of light colored silk and it remained unchanged since she donned it as a bridal dress a half century ago. Mr. Kepler wore the vest, coat and hat he was married in, he has the trousers but they wouldn't fit. The vest was black satin and was made with a belt. The hat was of the old fashioned stove pipe style that was popular in the fifties. Mr. Kepler explains the reason why he was able to keep these garments so long. The first Sunday School organized south and east of Webster City was organized by Mr. Kepler and the first few Sundays he wore his wedding clothes but few came. Then he laid away these garments, went barefooted and wore overalls and after that the Sunday School had a good attendance. Mrs. Kepler also showed the wedding dress that her mother wore nearly eighty years ago.

Adam Kepler and Elizabeth Meyers were married at Doylestown, Ohio, on March 30, 1838, and soon afterward moved to Hamilton county and settled on the Boone River, near Saratoga. In 1882 he moved to Clear Lake township later a part of the town of Stanhope was built on his farm.

Mr. Kepler was born in Canton, Ohio, May 13, 1833. His parents died when he was a small boy leaving their children, four sons and two daughters to care for themselves. His ancestors took part in the struggle for independence and his maternal grandmother sang at George Washington's funeral. Mr. Kepler made his first trip to Iowa in 1855 and bought land in Clear Lake township. He did not move here however until 1938.

Over a hundred guests were invited to this wedding many of them were pupils of Mr. Kepler's when he was a teacher 43 to 48 years ago. They wished they could have invited a thousand if it had been possible to accommodate that many. In the afternoon speeches were made by Rev. Williams, G. H. Dick, Adam Kepler, Mrs. Groves and G. F. Kent of times of fifty years ago and the time intervening. Everyone wishes Mr. and Mrs. Kepler that their lives may be prolonged and that they may celebrate many other anniversaries.

FIGURE 4.17 1908 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ON ADAM'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Work for hand and work
for brain.
Shall not be put forth
in vain.
In Iowa winters and
summer showers
An Iowa blacksmith
will brighten the hours

Stanhope, Iowa
Feb. 14th 1885

Remembrance of you
Cousin Wm. Kepler

When in that distant land
or clame,
Thy mind of care be free,
This little token of regard,
Will say remember me.
But should remembrance prove
a task,
Forget me then I simply ask.
Ever thy friend
— Wm. Kepler —

Stanhope, Iowa Jan 7 1886 Miss Belle Bute
A happy new year

When in that distant land or clame,
Thy mind of care be free,
This little token of regard,
Will say remember me.
But should remembrance prove a task,
Forget me then I simply ask.

Ever thy Friend
Wm. L. Kepler

FIGURE 4.18 AUTOGRAPHS OF WILLIAM LINCOLN KEPLER



FIGURE 4.19 WILLIAM LINCOLN KEPLER'S FAMILY PICTURE
(From top left: Della and Leah; front: William,
Gladys, and Flora Belle. Circa 1900)

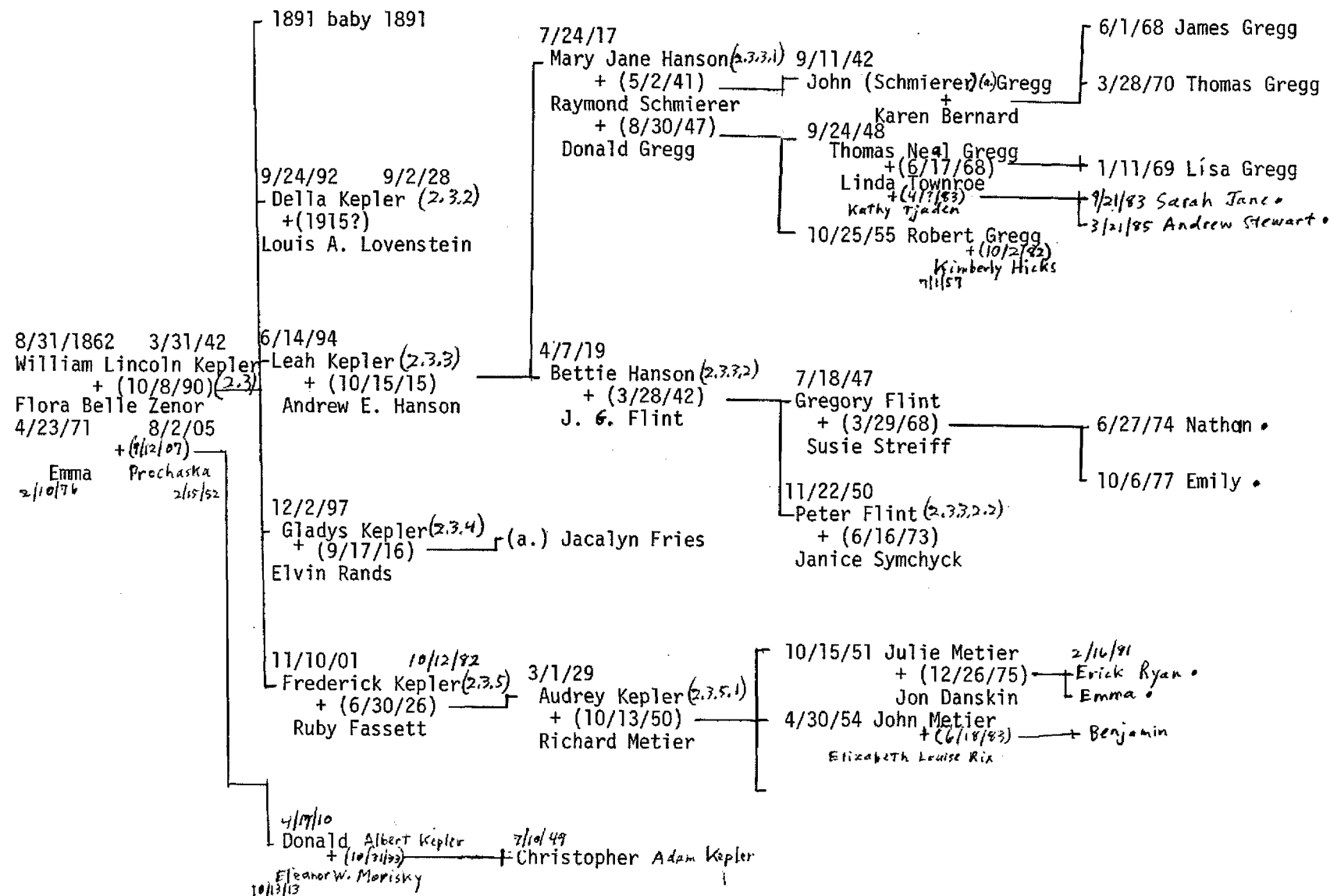


FIGURE 4.20 WILLIAM LINCOLN'S FAMILY CHART

George Franklin Frank, like William, also had a good sense of humor and liked to tease Adam. As a teenager Frank used tobacco which Adam disapproved of. Adam would threaten to cut him out of his will and give him only a dollar whereupon Frank would ask him to please give it to him now as he needed it.

The cousins all considered his wife, Belle (Amanda Arabelle Bute) "grand". See Figure 4.21 for pictures of George and Belle. Rubie Belle, their first child, was born when Frank and Belle lived on Adam's farm, but Olive Mae and the remaining children were born in Stanhope. Frank and Belle had moved to Leutetia's farm in 1888, three years after Belle's father died. In 1891 Frank bought the farm for \$2000.

Frank and Belle were fortunate in having so few of their children die young; only Harold Arthur in the family chart (Figure 4.22) died as an infant and Nina Orleana died at the tender age of 13. The picture of Frank and Belle's children in Figure 4.23 was taken about 1899. They must not have liked the photographer very well, especially Myrtle Dot. Eleven years later, in the next picture, Figure 4.24, Myrtle was much friendlier about having her picture taken, this time probably by Paul Walterick, Bessie Flo's husband. About a year after this picture was taken, Nina died of Bright's disease.

Belle seemed to have a penchant for remembering good times. In 1885 she tells Solomon's daughter Delila (Figure 4.25) not to forget the 11th of January, 1885, and later in 1894, she tells Rosa not to forget the summer of '94. We can only wonder what devilishly fun thing it was they were remembering together. Frank's autograph of 1884 was written when he was only 21, three years before he married.

Bess Walterick has kindly provided the following update on George and Belle's family.

We were a family of ten. Today, in 1981, only Gene, Myrtle, and I remain.

Rubie met George LaFrentz while she was employed at the State College in Ames, Iowa. They were married in 1916 and lived in Marshalltown until 1931. George was transferred to Michigan City, Indiana. They lived there until 1946, returning to Marshalltown. They had two sons, Kenneth and Richard.

Tragedy struck their home, when Capt. Kenneth LaFrentz was reported missing on a B-29 training mission from Elmendorf Field in Alaska. He had remained in service and volunteered for this mission. Not knowing for sure if he had died in a crash, or whether they had been taken prisoners by the Russians, was too much for Rubie's health in following years.

In June, 1958, when George returned home from work he found her, lying face down on the floor, dead from cerebral stroke. She was caring for little Cindy, Richard's daughter while the mother was working. She apparently died after giving Cindy breakfast, as dishes still lay unwashed. When George came home, Cindy met him at the door, with her shoes in her hands, and laces out. George knew something had happened to Rubie. God's angel must have watched over that little 2 1/2 year old child throughout the day. Kenneth had no children. Richard, Joan, and Penny now live in Michigan City, Indiana.

Olive and John Sterner were married in 1914 and lived for a few years on a farm near Stratford, Iowa. John worked for a short time for Quaker Oats in Ft. Dodge, then managed grain elevators at Renwick and Conroy in Iowa. He also managed the



FIGURE 4.2 | GEORGE FRANKLIN'S FAMILY PICTURE

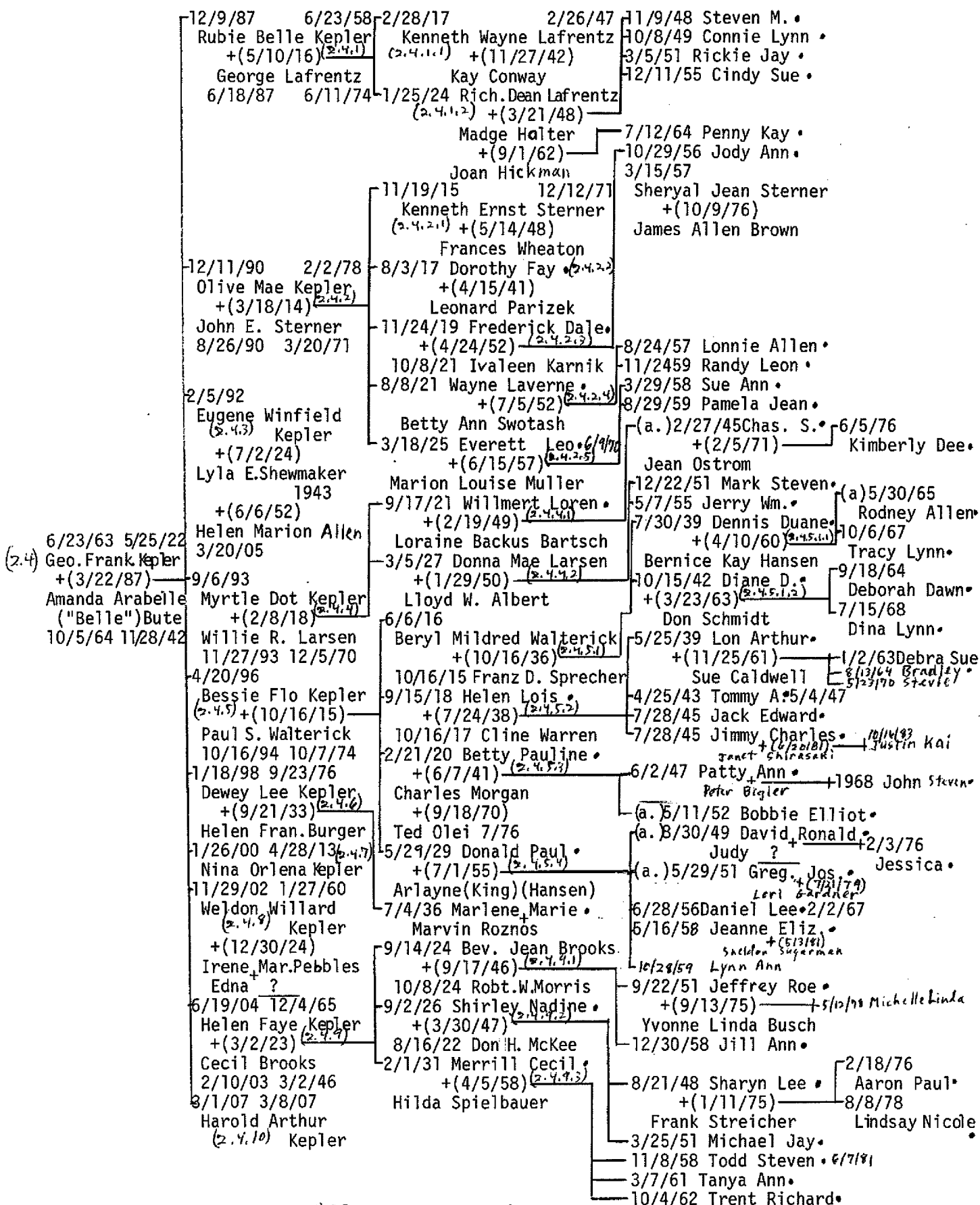


FIGURE 4.22 GEO. FRANKLIN'S FAMILY CHART



FIGURE 4.23

B:Back: Eugene Winfield, Olive Mae

Front left: Bessie Flo, Dewey Lee, Rubie, Myrtle Dot
(taken about 1899)



FIGURE 4.24

(Taken about 1912)

From left: Rubie Belle, Myrtle Dot, Helen Faye(girl), Bessie Flo, Leah Kepler (2.3.3)

Mrs. G. F. Kepler, Pioneer Resident Here, Passes Away

1942

Mrs. G. F. Kepler, pioneer resident of Stanhope, died last Saturday, Nov. 28, at the Lutheran hospital in Fort Dodge of a heart attack. Mrs. Kepler, since the death of her husband, May 25, 1922, has lived with her various children and had come to Fort Dodge on Nov. 15 to spend the winter at the home of a son, Dewey Kepler. She became sick on Thanksgiving day, was taken to the hospital, and died two day later.

The funeral was held Monday at the Methodist church in Stanhope, conducted by the pas-

tor, the Rev. B. L. Weaver. At the service Truman Quam sang a solo, "The Old Rugged Cross," and Mr. Quam and Mrs. M. E. Fardal sang a duet "Nearer My God, To Thee." Mrs. C. G. Scott accompanied the singers. Burial was in the Stanhope cemetery. William Parker, Dannie Knight, Arthur Malmberg, Elmer Snyder, Roy Davis and Archie Peterson served as the pall bearers.

All of her living children were present except Eugene, who is employed a a welder in shipyards at Seattle and could not get away.

Amanda Arabella Bute was the daughter of Madison and Letetia Bute. She was born Oct. 5, 1864, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and died at Fort Dodge, Iowa, Nov. 28, 1942, at the age of 78 eyars, 1 month and

23 days. She came to Stanhope when a girl of about 10 years of age and lived there all the years of her active life, until after the death of her husband.

She was married at Stanhope to George Franklin Kepler, Mar. 22, 1878. Ten children were born to this union. A daughter, Nina, died at the age of 13 in the year 1913, and an infant son, Harold, died in 1907 when but a week old.

Her eight surviving children are (Rubie) Mrs. George Lafrenz of Michigan City, Ind.; (Olive) Mrs. J. E. Sterner of Swisher, Iowa; (Eugene) of Seattle, Wash.; (Myrtle) Mrs. W. R. Larson of Fairmont, Minn.; (Bessie) Mrs. Paul Walterick of Fort Dodge; Dewey of Fort Dodge; Weldon of Davenport; and (Helen) Mrs. Cecil Brooks of Marshalltown

Stanhope Iowa 7/24, 1884

Dear Cousin,

*While sitting here alone
Reflecting on the past
Remember that you have
A friend*

That will forever last

Your Friend
G F Kepler

Stanhope Iowa 7/24 1884

Dear Cousin,

While sitting here alone
Reflecting on the past
Remember that you have a friend
That will forever last

Your Friend
G F Kepler

FIGURE 4.25 OBITUARY OF BELLE AND AUTOGRAPHS OF GEORGE FRANKLIN AND BELLE FROM ROSA BELLE KEPLER JOHNSON'S AND DELILA JANE KEPLER BUTE'S AUTOGRAPH BOOKS

Don't forget the summer of '84.

Stanhope, June 21, 1884

Dear Rosa

We say it for an hour or for years,
We say it smiling say it choked
with tears;
We say it oddly, say it with a kiss,
And yet we have no other word
than this. Good-bye.

We have no dearer word for
heart's friend,
For him who journeys to the
world's far end,
And scars our soul with going;
thus we say,
As unto him who steps but over
the way. Good-bye.
Alike to those we love and those we hate,
We say no more in parting, At life's
gate,
To him who passes out beyond
Earth's sight,
We say adieu the wanderer for a night,
Your old friend Mrs. E. E. Phelps.

(See Chapter Five, front for transcription.)

FIG. 4.25 (CONT.)



Stanhope, Iowa March 7th 1885

Mother

Farewell, mother, I am going, Going where the Angels dwell. You'll be lonely,
won't you mother, Yet I can but say farewell. (end of first line)

Father, father, how I love you, How I love you none can tell, But our parting won't
be lasting, It is but a short farewell. (end of second line)

Farewell, sister, farewell, brother. Do not weep for all is well. Now I hear
the angels calling, I must say farewell, farewell. (end of third line)

Don't forget the
11th of Jan. 1885

Amanda B. Bute

FIG.4.25 (CONT.)



Stanhope Iowa. May 11. 1885

Buds in time will flowers make.
Early in the Spring we take
Loving tender care of them
Gleaning all there sweet perfume
Every where about the room.

Bring just one bud or flower to me.
Usefull in scent of memory.
Trust me just one thought to thee
Ever thy friend ill - always be.
G. F. Kepler.

Stanhope Iowa May 11, 1885

Buds in time will flowers make.
Early in the spring we take
Loving tender care of them
Gleaning all there sweet perfume
Every where about the room.
Bring just one bud or flower to me.
Usefull in scent of memory.
Trust me just one thought to thee.
Ever thy friend I'll always be.

G. F. Kepler

FIGURE 4.25 (CONT.)

Feed and Grain Co. at Swisher. They lived in Marian, Iowa, about eight years, moving back to Swisher in 1955, where son Dale had built a home for them. John had crippling arthritis for many years. He died in 1971. Olive died in 1978 after many years of poor health. Two sons, Kenneth and Everett, died as young men from diabetic causes. Dorothy lives at Lone Tree, Iowa. Dale and Wayne and families live in Swisher.

Eugene (Gene) left the farm to become an auto mechanic. He married Ellen Shewmaker, and they lived in Estherville where he owned his own garage, selling Dodge cars. This marriage ended in about 1943. He then moved to Seattle to work for the Boeing Co. In 1952 he married Helen Allen who has been a most wonderful wife (and sister-in-law). Gene loved to hunt and fish. And fishing he could do in Seattle. But he broke his hip about eight years ago and has never been able to walk without a crutch since. Also, he has been hospitalized for surgery three times in recent years. He is nearing ninety. Helen's health is failing too. Gene is waiting eye surgery in November.

Myrtle was telephone operator in Stanhope for seven years before she met Will Larsen of Story City. She married in 1918 and Will was in uniform at that time. He was an auto mechanic. They lived in Algona, Blue Earth, Winnebago, and, for many years, in Fairmont, Minn. where Will died suddenly of a heart attack in 1970. Will was of Danish descent and a very happy person. Myrtle at 88 years is in good health but has lost most of her eyesight; otherwise she would be writing too.

Bessie (Bess) met the new editor, Paul Walterick, who had come to Stanhope to publish the weekly paper Stanhope Enterprise in the summer of 1914. He sold the paper in September 1915 and found employment with his brother Jay in Cedar Rapids. We were married there in 1915. We came home Christmas and found brother Lloyd in Ft. Dodge needing help in his new adventure, the Walterick Printing Co., so we moved to Ft. Dodge in 1916.

And we kept right on moving, for 66 years. Made 25 moves and lived in eight different towns. In and out of Ft. Dodge three times. What a record! And I've made one more move since Paul died in 1974 of a heart attack, to Friendship Haven in 1978.

Paul edited weekly papers at Bagley, Rippey, and Goldfield, Iowa. Worked for Erickson Specialty Co. in Des Moines, Mapleton Press, and owned his own plant in Clarion, moving back to Ft. Dodge in 1940, where he was manager of the Walterick Printing Co. until they sold out. His last job was shop superintendent at the Hahne Printing Co. in Webster City where he first learned the printing trade. He retired there in 1960, and again moved back to Ft. Dodge.

I have four children who keep a watchful eye on me and my comfort. At 85 I need it, although I'm in good health except for arthritis. Beryl and Franz live in Cedar Rapids. He retired in January 1981. Helen and Cline moved to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas in 1980 after he retired. He had worked for Collins Co. for 39 years. Donald and Arlayne are in the computer business in Chatsworth, Calif. Betty recently moved from Durango to Colorado Springs, Colorado to be near her daughter and grandson.

Dewey left the farm after Dad died and came here to Ft. Dodge where he learned the printing trade at the Walterick Printing Co. (Where else?) Those farm hands soon learned to run a linotype machine. In 1932 he started his own Kepler Printing Co. In 1933 he and Helen Burger of Blair, Nebraska were married. They have one daughter, Marlene Rosnoz who lives at Slater, Iowa. Dewey sold and retired in 1974. His retirement was short lived as he died of diabetes in 1976.

Helen Faye and Cecil Brooks were married in Webster City in 1924 and lived there until 1926, when they moved to Marshalltown. Cecil was assistant cost clerk at the C.A. Dunham Co. until 1931. He was scoutmaster from 1930-33, then treasurer of the old Central area from 1933-37. Later he operated his own insurance agency with a branch office at Tama until his death due to a brain inflammation. Still a young man of 43, his death was a shock. Helen moved to Cedar Rapids in about 1950 and was employed at Armstrong's Department Store. Her death at 61 was a shock also, due possibly to complications following influenza. Her children, Merrill, Shirley McKee, and Bev Morris and families, live in Marshalltown.

Weldon left the farm after Dad died and he too became an auto mechanic. While working at Bancroft, Iowa he married Irene Pebbles. He went from there to Estherville and worked in Gene's garage for several years. But for many years he worked in Davenport. He died in 1960 of lung cancer.

Nina, born in 1900 died in 1913 of Bright's disease. She had a short life, but a lovely disposition. Ill for several months, her doctor said she was most patient. Never complained. We were very saddened by her death.

Harold Baby Harold lived only one week.

Otis Wesley

Otis and Mae had two children (see Figures 4.26 and 4.27). They apparently had a very nice home and were quite strict, having established well-known "codes" for children's behavior that all the cousins knew about. Mae is described as "nothing like Belle", even though they were sisters. Her writing in Figure 4.28 tends to indicate she was strongly oriented toward strength of character and accomplishment. Note that Otis as well signs Delila's book very formally as Mr. Otis W. Kepler. Last, his and Mae's late marriage (both 31 years old in Figure 4.26) further indicates a reservedness of character. (Mae's death date has also been reported as 4/3/1940 and 3/5/40.)

Erma J. Weaver reports the following about Otis and Mae's children:

From an album belonging to Letha came forth many pictures that tell about her life and that of her brother. They were both "coworkers with the great physicians"-- male and female nurses. Like a team, Letha and Floyd must have felt a close relationship as brother and sister.

She seemed to have many friends. She had dark hair and wore dark-rimmed glasses. And in many of her pictures she had a warming and personable charm. She seemed happy in what she was doing and had a pleasant smile. Her brother was average build, with dark hair, and a handsome young man.

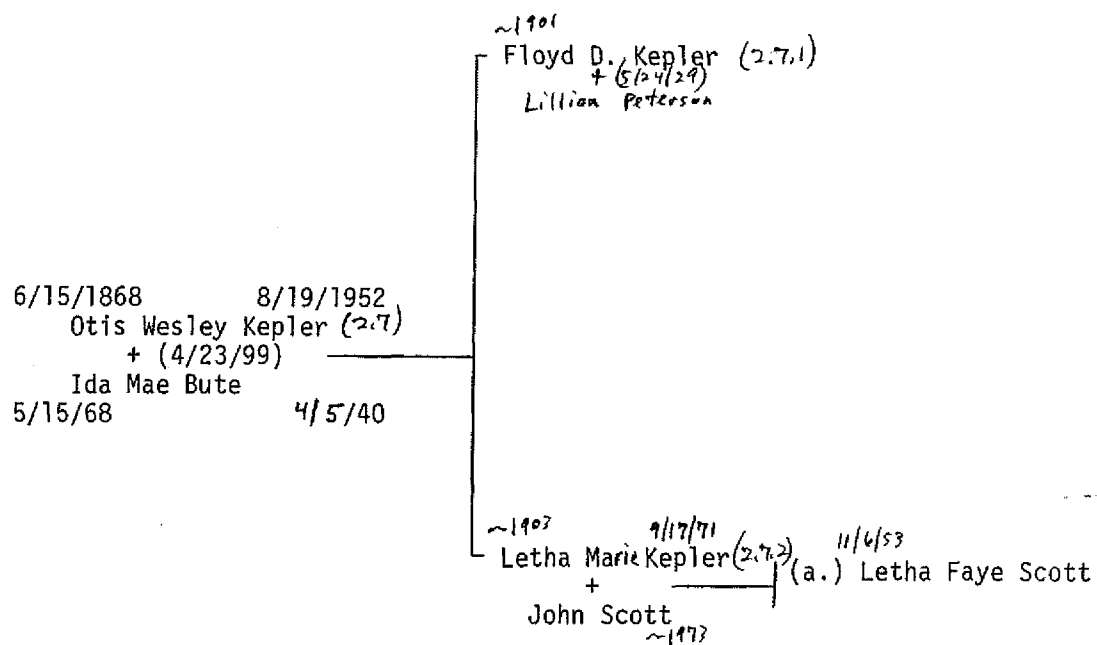


FIGURE 4.26 OTIS WESLEY'S FAMILY CHART



FIGURE 4.27 OTIS WESLEY KEPLER'S FAMILY PICTURE
(Ida Mae, Floyd, Letha, and Otis; Floyd and Letha)

Delila:

Stanhope, Iowa. January 18, 1886.

May thy life be blest
With the joys thou lovest best
Friendship, virtue, pleasure, truth:
Hover round thy happy youth.

Yours sincerely, From your Cousin.

Delila: Stanhope, Iowa

Mr. Otis W. Kepler.

May thy life be blest January 18 1886

With the joys thou lovest best

Friendship, virtue, pleasure, truth:

Hover round thy happy youth.

Yours sincerely,

From your Cousin,
Mr. Otis W. Kepler

Stanhope

Aug 10 1884

I've looked these pages ore and ore
To see what others have rote before
And in this little sacred spot
I scribe the words
Forget me not.

Stanhope Aug 10 1884

I've looked these pages ore and ore
To see what others have rote before
And in this little sacred spot
I scribe the words Forget me not.

Yours Respectfully,

Yours respectfully,
Otis W. Kepler

Otis W. Kepler.

FIGURE 4, 280 BITUARY OF OTIS AND AUTOGRAPHS OF OTIS AND
IDA MAE FROM ROSA, DELILA, AND BELLE'S AUTOGRAPH
BOOKS

Stanhope, Iowa,
June 29, 1894.

Dear Friend Rosa:-

Have a high aim in life
and do your best to reach it.

Stanhope, Iowa June 29, 1894

Dear Friend Rosa:-

Have a high aim in life
and do your best to reach it.

Ever your friend,

Mae Bute

Ever your friend,

Mae Bute

"What sculpture is to a block of marble"
So is education and refinement to a
lady's character.

Stanhope, Iowa
Mar. 7th 1885
Ida Bute



OBITUARIES

KEPLER.—Otis Wesley Kepler was born at Saratoga, near Stanhope, Iowa, June 13, 1868. His parents were Adam Kepler and Elizabeth Meyers Kepler. He was a twin, weighing two and one-half pounds at birth. His twin brother died when two days old but Otis lived to be over 84 years of age, passing away on July 19, 1952. Most of his life was lived in the community in which he was born and the manner in which he lived was of such worth as to gain the respect of all with whom he was associated. Practically all of his life he was an earnest Christian and a tireless worker in the church. He was for about eighteen years superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school at Stanhope. He became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1942, continuing faithful in the church until his death. He was united in marriage with Ida Mae Bute in 1889; two children were born to them, Floyd D. Kepler of Glendale, California, and Letha M. Scott of Des Moines, Iowa. He and his wife lived in Stanhope until 1938 when they moved to Nevada, Iowa. His wife died in 1940 and since that time he made his home with his daughter. He was the last survivor of a family of eleven children. Funeral services were held at Des Moines and at Stanhope, in the Methodist church, with burial in the Stanhope cemetery. Music was furnished by Mrs. Elmer Anderson, of Nevada, Iowa, and Mrs. Lora Oswald of Des Moines. Also, two transcribed numbers made at the time of Mrs. Kepler's funeral were used; they were "City Foursquare" and "He Is Preparing a Place for You," sung by W. C. Foreman, formerly of Nevada, Iowa. Brother Kepler awaits the resurrection of the righteous.
A. R. Hagen.

FIG. 4.28 (CONT.)

Friend Belle.

From a friend

Go though in lifes fair morning,
Go in the bloom of Youth.
And buy for thine adorning.
A precious pearl of truth.

Otis W. Kepler

Forget me not.

Jan 2nd, 1886.

Friend Belle

From a friend

Go though in lifes fair morning
Go in the bloom of youth
And buy for thine adorning
A precious pearl of truth

Otis W. Kepler

Forget me not

Jan 2nd, 1886

FIGURE 4.28 (CONT)

Letha married John Scott and they adopted a girl they named Letha Faye Scott. Figures 4.29 and 4.30 give some insight into their happy life. Sad and strange as it may seem, a picture was in Letha's album of her in her coffin. She looked no more than fifty years old, if that, and was buried in her nurse's uniform and cap.

Cora Jane

We still have very little information concerning Cora. From their autographs in Figure 4.31 Cora and Ed seem to have been a quiet, warm couple. Her family chart is given in Figure 4.32. Agnes Tjernagel (2.8.2) and Mary Hage (2.8.3.1) remember their mother telling about riding horses when she was a girl and herding the family cattle along the Boone River but fearing the Indians.

Emma Mae

Emma's autographs in Figure 4.33 were apparently written when she was about ten. At that time she seemed to prefer spelling her middle name with a y, May. In Emma's family chart, Figure 4.34, the gap of four years between Kermit and Clara Maxine may indicate a lost infant, though this is not known for sure. The picture of the boys in Figure 4.35 was taken about 1917 whereas the combined group picture was taken about 1930. It is interesting to compare the picture of Emma and Andy here with that in Figure 4.15-- how little change there is. Andy's hair style is identical after 50 years, and Emma's "Mona Lisa smile" is also unchanged. The kindly warmth is even still the same after 50 years.

Highlights of reports from Mildred Mae (2.11.6) and Marvin Lesley Snyder (2.11.3) are abstracted below:

Harold and Clara lived one and one-half miles north of Stanhope on a farm, then moved to Hartley, Iowa in 1941. He was self-employed in the Plumbing and Heating business. He died of cancer.

Elmer lived at Hubbard, Pocahontas, and Kellogg, Iowa and moved to Stanhope in 1917. Elmer started farming on a farm one mile west of Stanhope and still farming as of 1979. His wife Clara died of cancer in 1962. He remarried to Bertha Johnson in 1963.

Marvin was manager for National Tea Food Chain through the fall of 1959. He resigned and accepted a job with McGraths Furniture and Carpet where he was salesman from 1959 until he retired in 1973. Ill health slowed his activities but keeps busy with yard work and fishing at our Story County Hickory Lake and also at White Bear Lake in Minnesota where our son has his home. Marvin's nickname all through youth has been 'Curly' - however, 'Baldy' is becoming more appropriate. We celebrated our 40th anniversary April 10, 1972 being surprised by our sons and their spouses at a dinner at the Horse & Buggy restaurant in Adel, with family and friends and looking forward to our 50th in the year of 1982.

Everett and Eula lived at Dows, Iowa for five years after which they moved to Boone, Iowa where they now live. Everett worked for Wester Furniture Company as a salesman and carpet mechanic until his retirement 8/1/72. Eula worked as a homemaker until the children were older when she went to work for the Woolworth Company until her retirement.

While still an infant, Nina's folks moved to Kellogg, Iowa, then to Stanhope. She graduated from high school in 1926. After working for a year and a half to help earn money for a three-year nursing course, she graduated from Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago. While working as a staff nurse at Billings Hospital (University of Chicago) she met and married. Relton was to become an internationally known orthopaedic surgeon. He is still listed in "Who was Who in the World." They made their home in St. Louis,

Dear Friends and Relatives: This will give you some of the most memorable events in our lives during the past year. We hope to hear from you also.

The first of December 1964, Letha helped some people from Pennsylvania open a modern nursing home in Sanford (12 mi. north of us) and remained with them as night supervisor for 22 months, but it was a little too far to drive so 2 months ago she accepted similar work at a high-class nursing home in Orlando, nearer home. I guess it must be a good nursing home, as they charge \$800 a month to stay there. Letha is paid \$3.50 more for 8 hours than at the other place. It is close to the Florida Sanitarium grounds, but not operated by the Sanitarium.

Letha Faye, our daughter is now 13 years old (Nov. 6.) She is a commendable girl, seems well liked by her fellow students and her teachers. She plays the flute in her school band and gets good grades. We entertained 12 of her friends for her birthday at a Chinese Dinner Club. It was easier that way, and she enjoyed it.

We had driven our 1962 Anglia (English Ford) over 100,000 miles, and it was beginning to give real trouble, so we traded it in on an American Ford. We feel more patriotic now supporting our American economy, and we do have more room in the car.

We have several orange trees, one just loaded with oranges until I had to prop up the branches. We have bearing pomegranate and loquat trees; and others such as lichee nut and surinam cherries which will bear if it does not frost too hard. We are so thankful that we are permitted to live in Florida where we can have these blessings.

It seems, at least here in Florida, that one cannot buy anything without entering some sort of contest, but it does help that Letha won \$200 at a Super Market recently.

We are members of the Forest Lake Adventist Church and have what we think is a truly wonderful pastor. The only fault he seems to have is that he sometimes has visiting ministers speak in his place. But that is just because he is modest and thinks he is pleasing us.

We only occasionally go to the beach and other places for outings and sometimes visit friends in St. Petersburg and other places; but hope to have a more extended vacation next summer. Walt Disney and Roy Rogers are planning sight-seeing developments here near us. We hope that will induce more of our friends to vacation in this area. If you come, we hope you will stop to see us. We still live in the same place, just three-fourths of a mile west of Interstate #4 on State Road 434 just one-half mile west of Sanlando Springs in Mobile Manor. Turn in south, just west of Don's Garage to our place at the end of the paved street. Our most prized possession is still our faith in God whom we know can never die.

We all send our love and best wishes for 1967.

John, Letha, Letha Faye Scott

FIGURE 4.30 1966 CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM LONGWOOD, FL

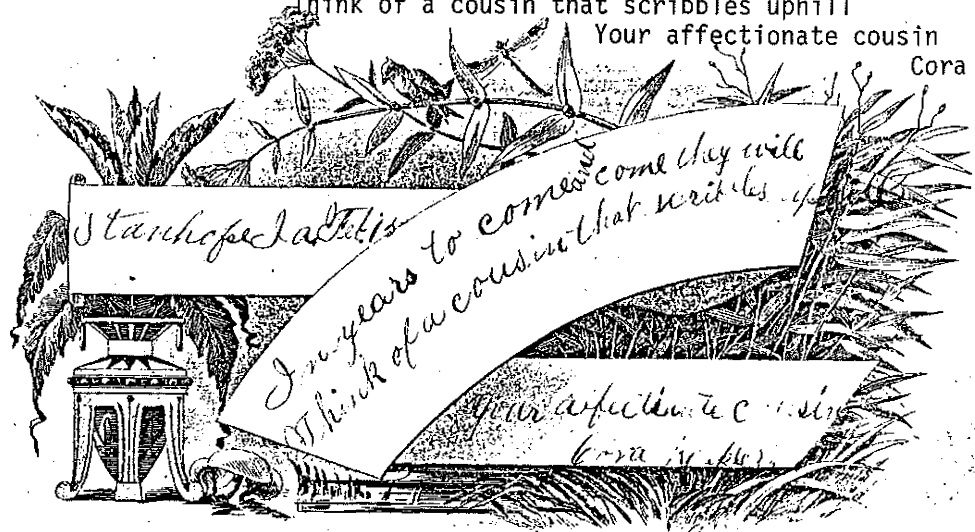
Stanhope Ia. Feb. 15

In years to come and come they will

Think of a cousin that scribbles uphill

Your affectionate cousin

Cora Kepler



Stanhope Ia.

Aug 10 1884

Stanhope Ia. Aug 10 1884

I write not here for beauty,
I write not here for fame
I write here only to be remembered
And here I will sign my name.

Your Cousin

Cora Kepler

I write not here for beauty,
I write not here for fame
I write here only to be remembered
And here I will sign my name

Your Cousin

Cora Kepler

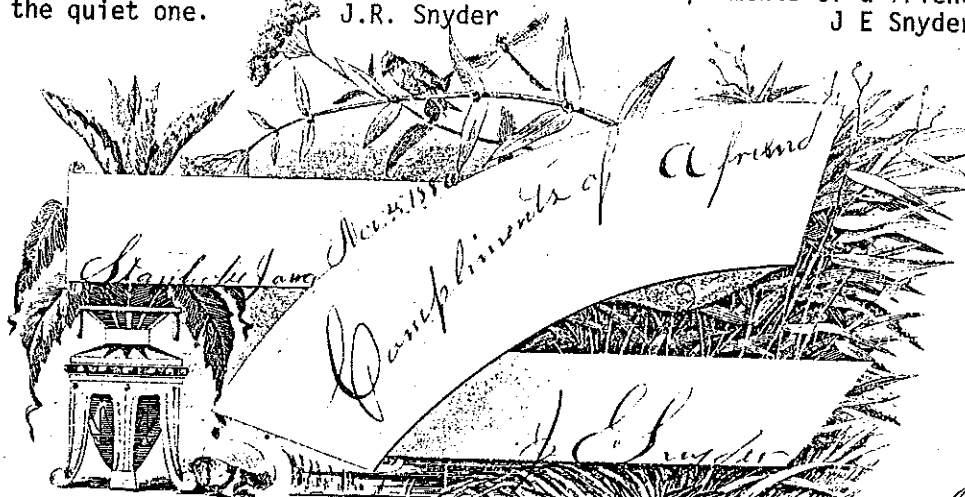
FIGURE 4.31 AUTOGRAPHS OF CORA JANE AND JOHN EDWARD SNYDER
FROM ROSA, DELILA, & BELLE'S AUTOGRAPH BOOKS

When you are thinking of boys
full of (fun) ~~but~~ think of me
the quiet one.

Stanhope Iowa Nov 25 1886

Compliments of a friend
J E Snyder

J.R. Snyder



When you are thinking of boys full of
I'll think of me the quiet one. J. E. Snyder

Remember me

Dear Friend Belle

May your life be long and happy,
And when the hour
Of death shall come may
May the angels hands attend,
The to that eternal home
"Your friend"

Cora Kepler

Excuse this black spot Remember Christmas Remember me

Stanhope Iowa January 1886

Forget me not

Dear Friend Belle

May your life be long and happy,
And when the hour Of death shall come may
May the angels hands attend,
The(e) to that eternal home.

Your friend Cora Kepler

FIGURE 4.31 (CONT.)

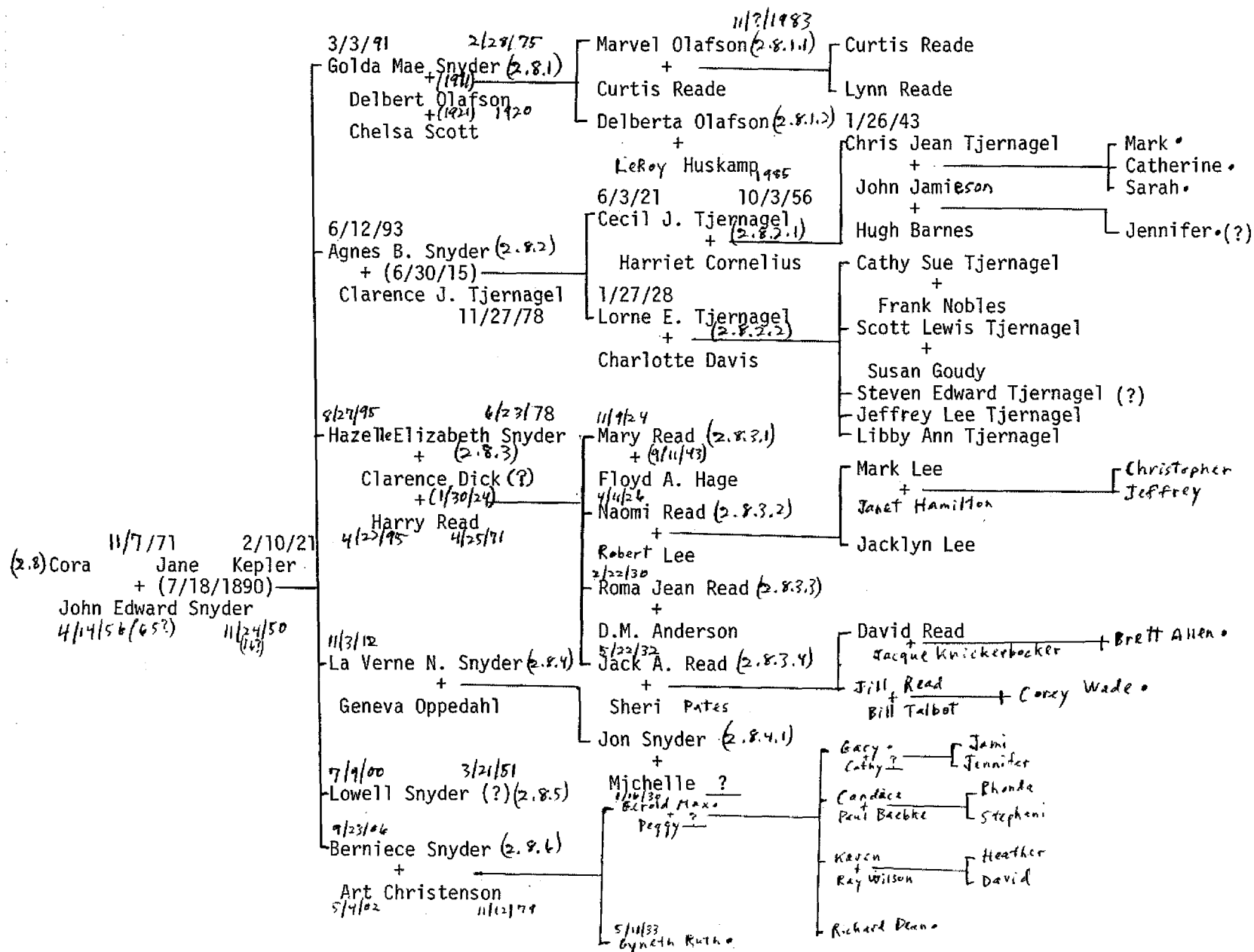
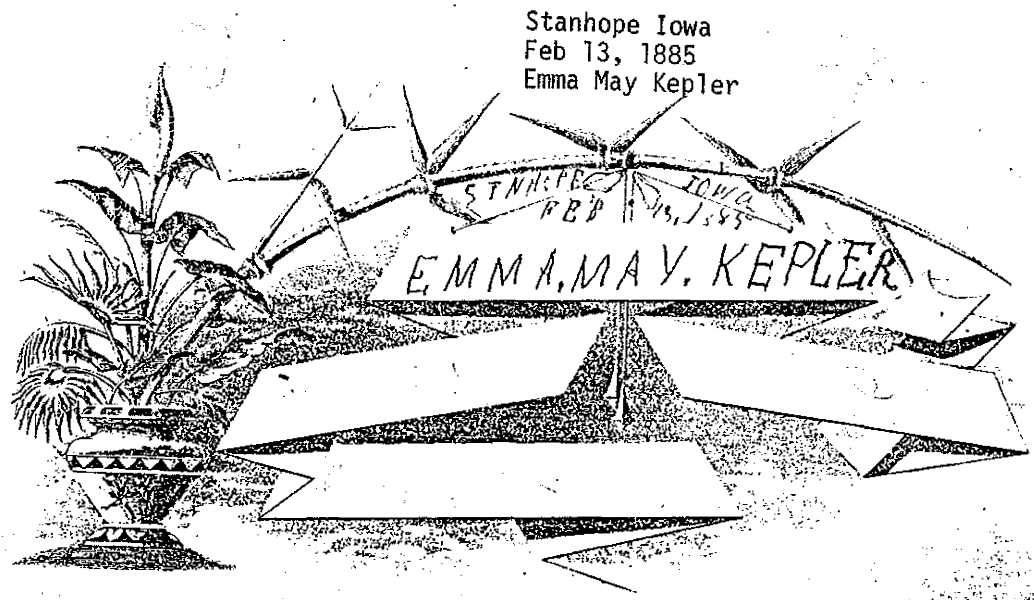


FIGURE 4.32. CORA JANE'S FAMILY CHART



Stanhope Iowa,
March 14, 1886.
Some love one and some love two
I love one and that is you
Your Cousin
Emma Kepler

Stanhope Iowa
March 14, 1886
Some love one and some
love two
I love one and that is you
Your Cousin
Emma Kepler

FIGURE 4.33 AUTOGRAPHS OF EMMA MAE KEPLER SNYDER FROM ROSA AND DELILA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

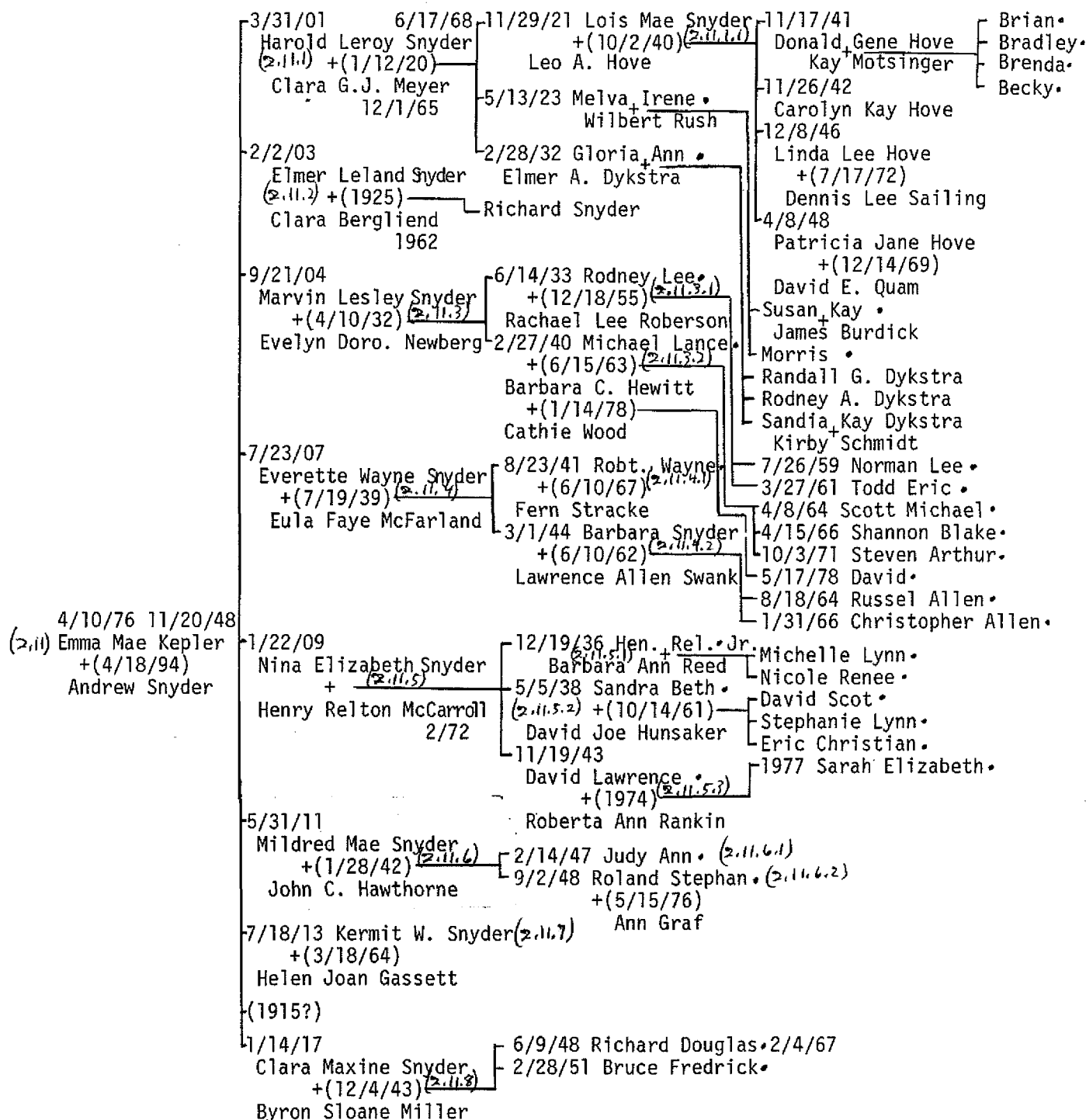


FIGURE 4.34 EMMA MAE'S FAMILY CHART



FIGURE 4.35 EMMA MAE KEPLER SNYDER'S FAMILY PICTURE
 (Andy and Emma Mae; Sons about 1917, left: Kermit,
 Everett, Marvin, Elmer, Harold; Children about 1930,
 left: Mildred?, Nina, Maxine?; left: Kermit, Elmer,
 Marvin, Harold, Everett)

Missouri where Relton was associated with Shriners Hospital and Barnes Hospital. He died while in Honolulu, Hawaii, February, 1972 while attending a medical convention. Nina has continued to travel in eastern Europe, Alaska and the states. She enjoys her children and six grandchildren.

I (Mildred)
was raised in Stanhope and graduated from Stanhope High School. Received my Teaching Certificate degree from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago.

During the years following the depression I then worked as a medical secretary at the University of Chicago hospital. I continued to study music with renowned teachers, playing violin, 'Cello and piano.

World War II broke out; things loosened up job wise, and I was bored and ready for something new. I received a Teaching Assistantship to study at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. The campuses in those days of war times had no men students but Grinnell College had turned the men's dorm over to the government for an officer candidate school and the women students were expected to date these men to keep things normal. The first date was a "dud" and a Prep talked me into dating another soldier for their graduation ball. I went home for the Christmas Holidays and my date, John C. Hawthorne, became a Second Lieutenant, and took off for New Jersey. I returned to Grinnell to find a note on my desk to call the Red Cross--it was urgent. I couldn't imagine anything urgent for me at the Red Cross, but I finally called them.

John and I had, as I remember, three dates when we parted at Grinnell, and he had a large phone bill for a month dating over the wire. So I was left a bit in shock when the Red Cross officer asked if I knew Lieutenant John Hawthorne, and when I said I did, she said she had a message for me from him. He was in staging area. The message read, "Do you want to marry John C. Hawthorne, time element important, will wire money?" What a surprise proposal!! With dead silence the lady finally said, "Well, do you want to marry him?" The head of this department reminded me that there was a faculty meeting in ten minutes and since living in a dorm, I did have to get permission to leave. In war days, anything went, and I went to the unknown destination of New Brunswick, New Jersey, and we married. It has lasted these 37 years. He was at the point of embarkation then, so we were married at the Fort Chapel and he went to North Africa and I returned to Grinnell to complete the term and go back the following fall. At the close of the fall semester, John wrote that he was in the hospital over there and would return to the States by the middle of December. I finished the semester out and joined him in New Orleans where he was assigned and stayed to the end of the war.

Kermit was in the grocery business in Cresco, Iowa for eleven years - spent five years in the Air Force after which they moved to Bryan, Texas. Bryan is still their residence where they have an Interior Decorating business. They also operate Blue Valley Cattery which raises Persian cats and have a big boarding business for cats only.

Maxine graduated from Stanhope High School in 1934. She did domestic work to earn money for a three-year nursing course graduating from Michael Reese Hospital School of Nursing in 1939. She worked as a Staff Nurse and Supervisor at Michael Reese Hospital until joining the Army Corps in 1942. As a Lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps, she served one year in Army hospitals in the U.S. and two years with the 44th General Hospital Unit in the South Pacific.

She met Byron in the U.S. and became engaged. He was then with the 1st Cavalry Division. They spent two tense years as Maxine's Hospital Unit received the casualties from Byron's Unit; following them from Australia to New Guinea and the Philippines. She was on Leyti (spelling) Island and Byron in Manila on V-J Day. She was returned to the U.S. due to illness. Byron went on to Japan for a brief time.

After their discharges from the Army, they moved to Manhattan, Kansas where Byron completed his Ph.D. in Bio-chemistry at Kansas State University. Maxine and her husband enjoy traveling both in the U.S. and abroad. They lived in England in 1958-59 where Byron had a National Science Foundation grant to Cambridge University and Rothamstead Experimental Station. He is a past-president of the American Association of Cereal Chemists

SOLOMON

After marrying (Figure 3.1) and moving to DeKalb County, Indiana, where Mary was born, Solomon and Philena moved again in about 1863 to the town of Hamilton in Stuben County, Indiana, where Delilah, Lopedla, and Rhoda were born. (According to Adam's wife "Lissie", Philena's real father, an Irishman, came to live with her and Solomon but she sent him away because of his heavy drinking.) On their way to Solomon's farmland in the Spring of 1869, they stopped awhile in Grundy and Hardin Counties in Iowa. Upon reaching his 160 acres of land in Hamilton County, four miles south of Webster City and 80 rods off the west bank of the Boone River, Solomon proceeded to build their home (see Figure 3.7). Here he farmed for 33 years, raising his family and saving his money. Solomon's family chart and picture are given in Figures 4.36 and 4.37, respectively.

He and Philena were deeply religious and invested heavily in a religious/industrial organization headquartered in Zion, Illinois to which they moved with their son and youngest daughters in 1902. They built a house there at 2807 Elizabeth Avenue, Figure 4.38. The religious organization went into bankruptcy in 1907 and Philena and Solomon could only recover 13 cents on every dollar of the life savings they had invested. They were very bitter the rest of their lives. To make a living, Solomon bought an old horse and a wagon and worked as a drayman until he died in 1917. They kept a vegetable garden and some chickens. Philena canned and put up the canned goods in the "buttery" room of the house where foodstuffs were kept.

Two partial family pictures taken decades later are shown in Figures 4.39 and 4.40. Solomon's autographs are in Figure 4.41 and the 1880 Census of his family in Iowa, plus his obituary, are in Figure 4.42.

Philena Dennison's mother died when she was an infant so it is presumed her father put her up for adoption. Simon Myers, a German-speaking family in Barberton (near Akron) took her in (and another girl as well, see Figure 3.2) and raised her. We suspect the recipe for "cream pie" came from this family by way of Philena. When her daughter Rhoda used to quiz her about her nationality, Philena always said she was an American, so Rhoda would tease her about being an Indian.

In Figure 4.43 is Rosa's June 21, 1930 telegram to Delila portending the weakening condition of Philena, who died the next day. Margaret Bennett, Rosa's eldest daughter, remembers the funeral vividly: "all the daughters in black with their faces covered with black veils."

Some comments regarding Figure 4.36:

- * We have never seen any mention of Solomon (or Philena) having had a middle name.
- * Delila was initially spelled Delilah but she dropped the h. (Her nephews pronounced her name "Delala".)
- * Rhoda would sometimes spell her own name Rhodia (see her section later).
- * The birth year of the son following Rhoda is sometimes given as 1871. He died soon after birth.
- * "Suzie" seems to have had multiple names attached to

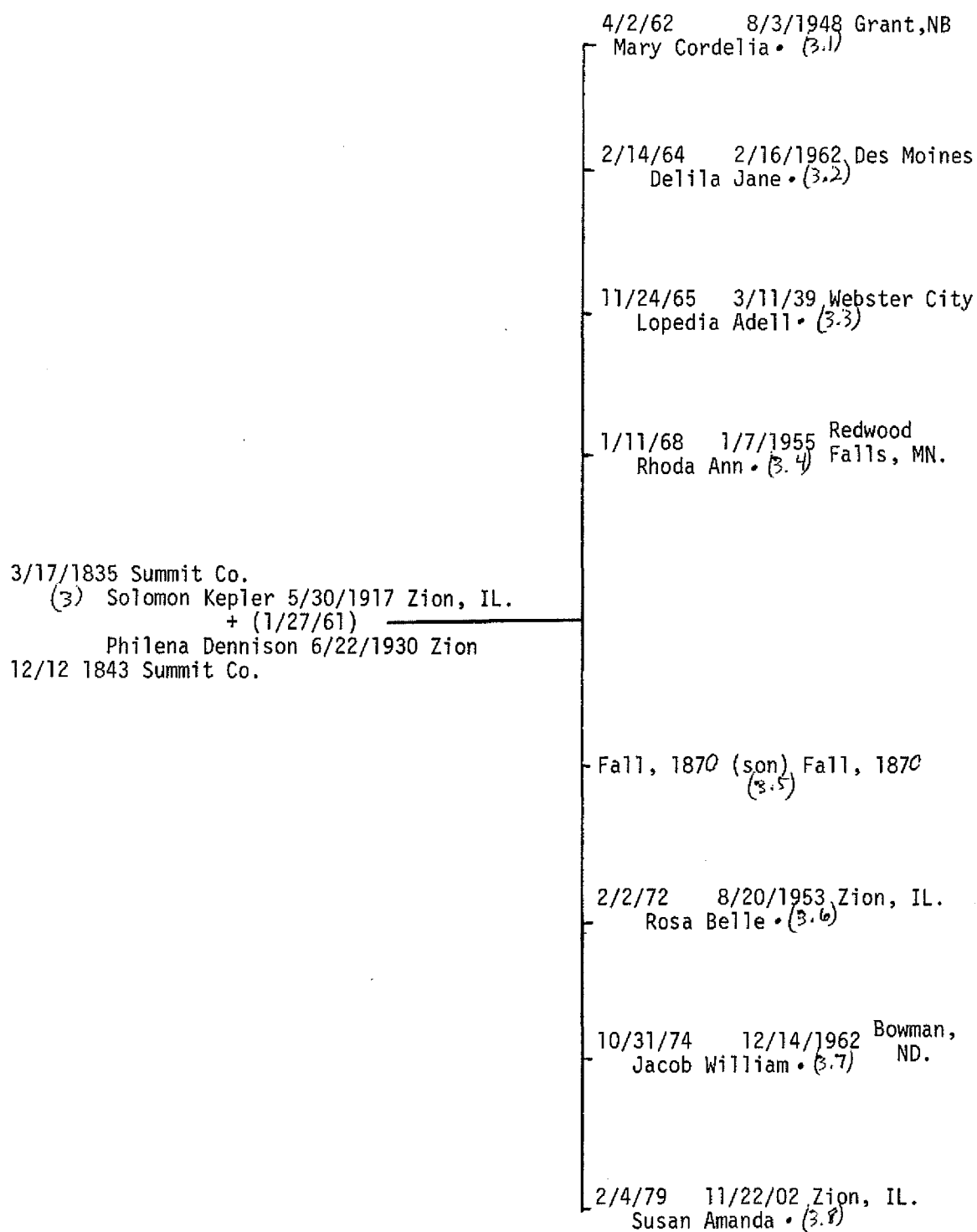


FIGURE 4.36 SOLOMON'S DIRECT FAMILY CHART

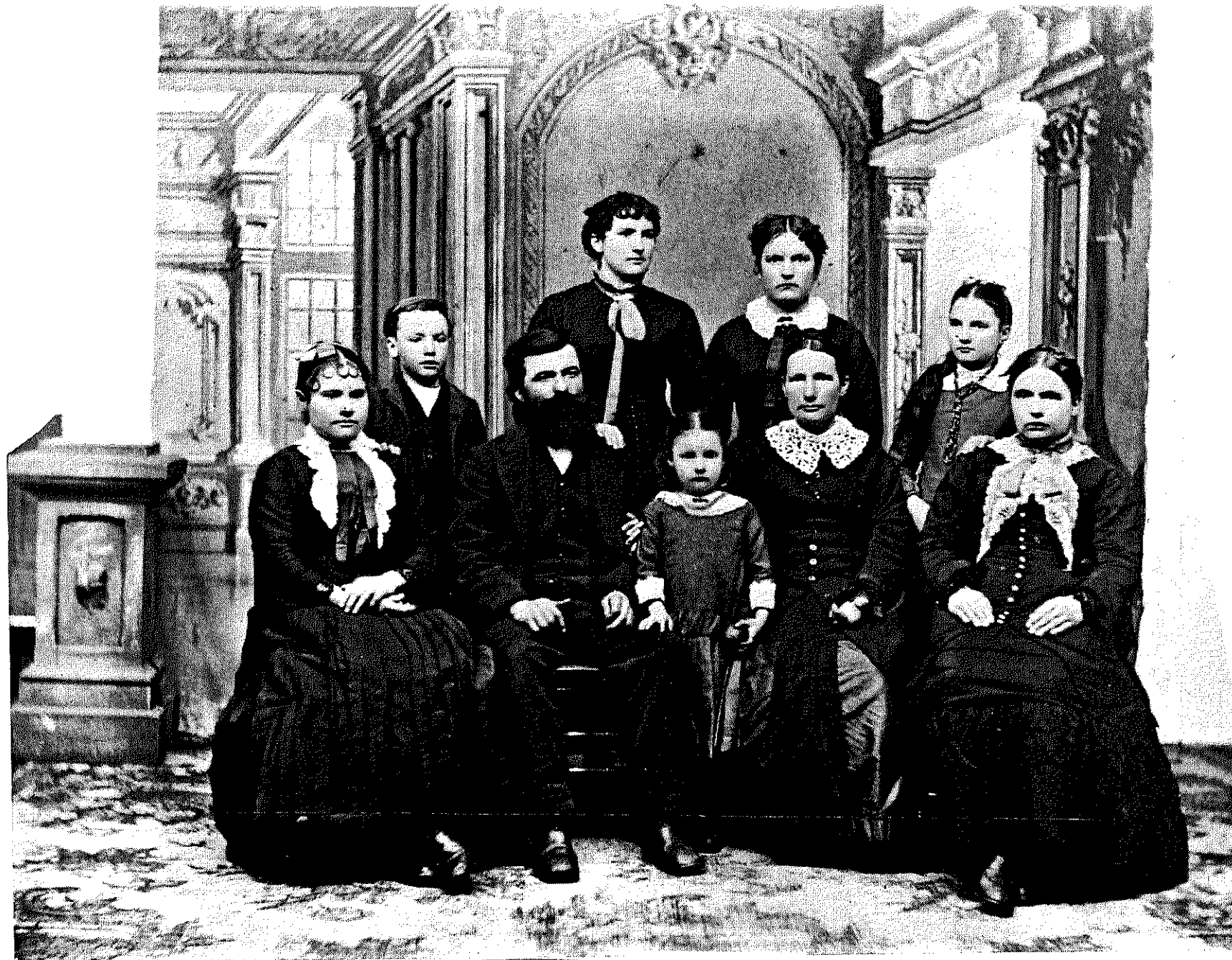


FIGURE 4.37 SOLOMON'S FAMILY PICTURE (c. 1884) (Seated left: Rhoda, Solomon, Susan (standing), Philena, Mary. Standing left: Jacob, Delila, Lopedia, Rosa.)



FIGURE 4.38 Solomon and Philena's Home in Zion, Ill.



FIGURE 4.39 Rose (Meredith) Wagner, Mary, Delila, Charles Beaver, Rosa, Lynne (Meredith) Beaver (c. 1930)

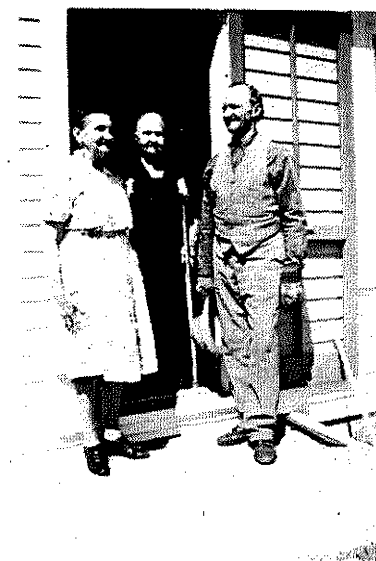


FIGURE 4.40 Rosa, Mary, and Jacob (c. 1942)

Children obey your parents in
Children obey your parents in

The Lord for this is right
The Lord for this is right

Honor thy Father and Mother that
Honor thy Father and Mother that

it may be well with thee and thy
it may be well with thee and thou

mayest live long on the Earth
mayest live long on the Earth

Solomon Kepler Webster City March the 15/85
Solomon Kepler Webster City March the 15/ 85

Webster City March the 15/85
Youth is the time to serve
the Lord I would rather
be a door Keeper in my Fathers
house than to dwell in wickedness
Solomon Kepler

Webster City March the 15/85

Youth is the time to serve
the Lord I would rather
be a door Keeper in my Fathers
house than to dwell in wickedness
Solomon Kepler

FIGURE 4.41 SOLOMON'S AUTOGRAPHS FROM ROSA AND DELILA'S
AUTOGRAPH BOOKS

SOLOMON KEPLER DIES IN ZION CITY

Pioneer Settler - Hamilton County
Passes Away at Ripe Age
of 82 Years.

1917
Solomon Kepler, a former well known and much respected early settler of Hamilton county, died May 30 in Zion City, Ill., at the age of 82 years. Solomon Kepler was born March 17, 1835, and while quite young was left an orphan. Coming west in the fifties, he bought land in southern Hamilton county and also in Fort Dodge. Later he returned to Ohio and was married Jan. 20, 1861, to Emma Davidson, and they went to Steuben county, Indiana, to make their home. After a few years they sold their farm and came west in a mover's wagon, settling near Webster City. Here the deceased lived until fifteen years ago when he went to Zion City, where he lost the financial accumulations of the previous years.

Four weeks ago Mr. Kepler was taken ill and passed quietly away on the evening of Memorial day. He was ready and longed to go. He had been a member of the Methodist church many years before going to Zion City.

The funeral was held from the home on June 1, conducted by Rev. Cox, a returned missionary. All of his children were present but J. W. Kepler of South Dakota and Mrs. Mary Meredith of Nebraska. Five daughters and a son and a loving wife remain to mourn his departure, one son and one daughter having preceded him to the great beyond. He also leaves twenty-eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

"His children rise up and call him blessed."

"To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."

K146
Kepler Solomon
IOWA
Vol 14 E204
Sheet 3 Line 43
W M 45
Hamilton
Ohio
Webster Twp.
1880 CENSUS - INDEX
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
#1-2-72
A-16
MAILED POSTING CO. 1900 1-12-00-11200

NAME	RELATION- SHIP	AGE	BIRTHPLACE
Kepler Philena W.	W.	41	Ohio
Mary K.	D.	14	Indiana
Delilah J.	D.	16	Indiana
Lopodia D.	D.	14	Indiana
Rhoda E.	D.	12	Indiana

Kepler Solomon
STATE Iowa
OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY - CONTINUED
1880 CENSUS - INDEX
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
#2-2-71
A-16
MAILED POSTING CO. 1900 1-12-00-11200

NAME	RELATION- SHIP	AGE	BIRTHPLACE
Kepler Rosa	D.	2	Iowa
Frederick W.	S.	6	Iowa
Kepler, Hannah	D.	1	Iowa

FIGURE 4.42 1880 CENSUS OF SOLOMON'S FAMILY + OBITUARY

OBITUARY

Mrs. Solomon Kepler.

Miss Philena Denison was born in 1843 in New Portage, Ohio. Her mother dying when she was an infant, she was reared to womanhood by a German family by the name of Myers. Therefore, she was conversant with both English and German. At the age of 18 she was married to Solomon Kepler, Jan. 27, 1861. In this home were born two sons and six daughters, one son dying in infancy and one daughter, Susan Mandy, dying in Zion when 23 years of age. The children are: Mrs. Meredith, Grant, Nebr.; Mrs. Bute, Stanhope; Mrs. Edvenson, Webster City; Mrs. Gee, Cottonwood, Minn.; Mrs. Johnson, Zion, Ill., and J. W. Kepler, Lemmen, S. D. She leaves 31 grandchildren and 37 great grandchildren. For a number of years they lived in Stuben county, Indiana, moving to Hamilton county, Iowa, in 1869. Breaking the virgin soil, they built their home south of Webster City, living here until 1902, when they moved to Zion, Ill. Here Mr. Kepler passed away 13 years ago on May 30, and Mrs. Kepler continued to live alone until called by death June 22, 1930. In her last illness she was tenderly cared for by her loving daughter, Rosa Johnson.

Mrs. Kepler had strong convictions and a great, big, sympathetic nature, as many could testify when nurses were few. A keen, witty mind in a wiry body carried this generous soul. She gave to the limit of her means and strength to those she loved, and in her younger days was a marvel in the culinary line. She loved her Lord and taught her children of Him, and was grieved when she could not attend the house of God.

Truly Job 5:26 is fulfilled in Sister Kepler: "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like a shock of

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1204

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LCO = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
WLT = Week-End Letter

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

June 30 died.
June 1930

PA. 10

ZION ILL 11.50 AM. 21.

DEHLIA BUTE

STANHOPE IOWA

MOTHER LOW COME LATER MONEY SPECIAL DELIVERY

WILL WRITE LATER.

ROSA JOHNSON.

1.31 PM

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

FIGURE 4.43 THE PASSING OF PHILENA

her. The 1880 Census lists her as Susannah but everyone seems to have known her as Susan. Her middle name was apparently Amanda but we have also seen it as Maude, and even Mandy (see Philena's obituary, Figure 4.43).

The family picture in Figure 4.37 is intriguing, with the hands posed "resting" informally on shoulders (though this may have been to keep them from moving while the picture was being taken). Notice the shoes-- somewhat different from the pumps and Capezios of today-- and of course the heavy dresses with all the buttons, and the lace. Youngsters' fashions seem to have changed less: Rosa's braid and necklace for example. Note the style of the carpet, and of course the false backdrop, used in many of the pictures seen in this book.

The family pictures in Figures 4.39 and 4.40 were probably taken at Mary's home in Grant, Nebraska. If the man in Figure 4.40 is Jacob, as we have been told, it is probably the last time anyone in the family saw him. Contact was apparently lost with Jacob in 1948 when he was supposedly a shepherd in South Dakota. Mary, as seen, was on crutches by the time of this photo and about six years from her death in 1948.

In Figure 4.41, Solomon's notes to his daughters for their autograph books were religious, in part because the day he wrote the notes was a Sunday, and in part because parents were quite religious in those days and were expected to set an example. (Compare with Adam's poem to Rosa, Figure 4.16). Note also the concern about obedience-- apparently, children in those days were just as difficult as ours are today.

Mary Mary's family chart is given in Figure 4.44, family pictures in Figure 4.45, her obituary in Figure 4.46, and family autographs in Figure 4.47. At the age of 23 Mary married Nathaniel P. Olmstead and had a baby girl named Laverne⁵. The ill-fated family was not destined to be a success, however. Nathaniel left Mary early in the marriage and the baby died of cerebral spinalmeningitis after only eight months. (In the year before Mary died, Nathaniel returned to pay Mary a visit in Grant, Nebraska, after 63 years! It is not known if Nathaniel was aware that the baby had died, but he probably was.)

About 1887 Mary met Theodore William Meredith, a physician, and in 1888 moved to Omaha to start a new family. Though helpful around the house, Dr. Meredith had such a drinking habit that in 1903, a year after Solomon and Philena had moved to Zion, Mary left him and moved her family to Zion. In 1912 she moved again, to Grant, Nebraska, where her sister Rosa, recently widowed, was now living. In 1919, upon the return of her son Ralph from the war, she moved the family to Chicago but became homesick for Grant and moved back in 1922, remaining there for the rest of her life.

Mary's family chart in Figure 4.44 depicts her children and descendents. The eldest daughter, Rose, married Ralph Wagner at the age of 20 and had five children (see Figure 4.48). Hazel was a self-made woman and a tribute to hard work and independence, putting herself through law school and passing the Georgia and California bar exams. She took the professional name of "Dolly Lee" Butler and was known by that throughout her later life. Her family life was less fortunate, her husbands and sons (Figure 4.49) dying early. It might be

5. Lynne Beaver (3.1.6) recalls the talk about the child as being a boy, named Vern; however, the death certificate identified the infant as a girl.

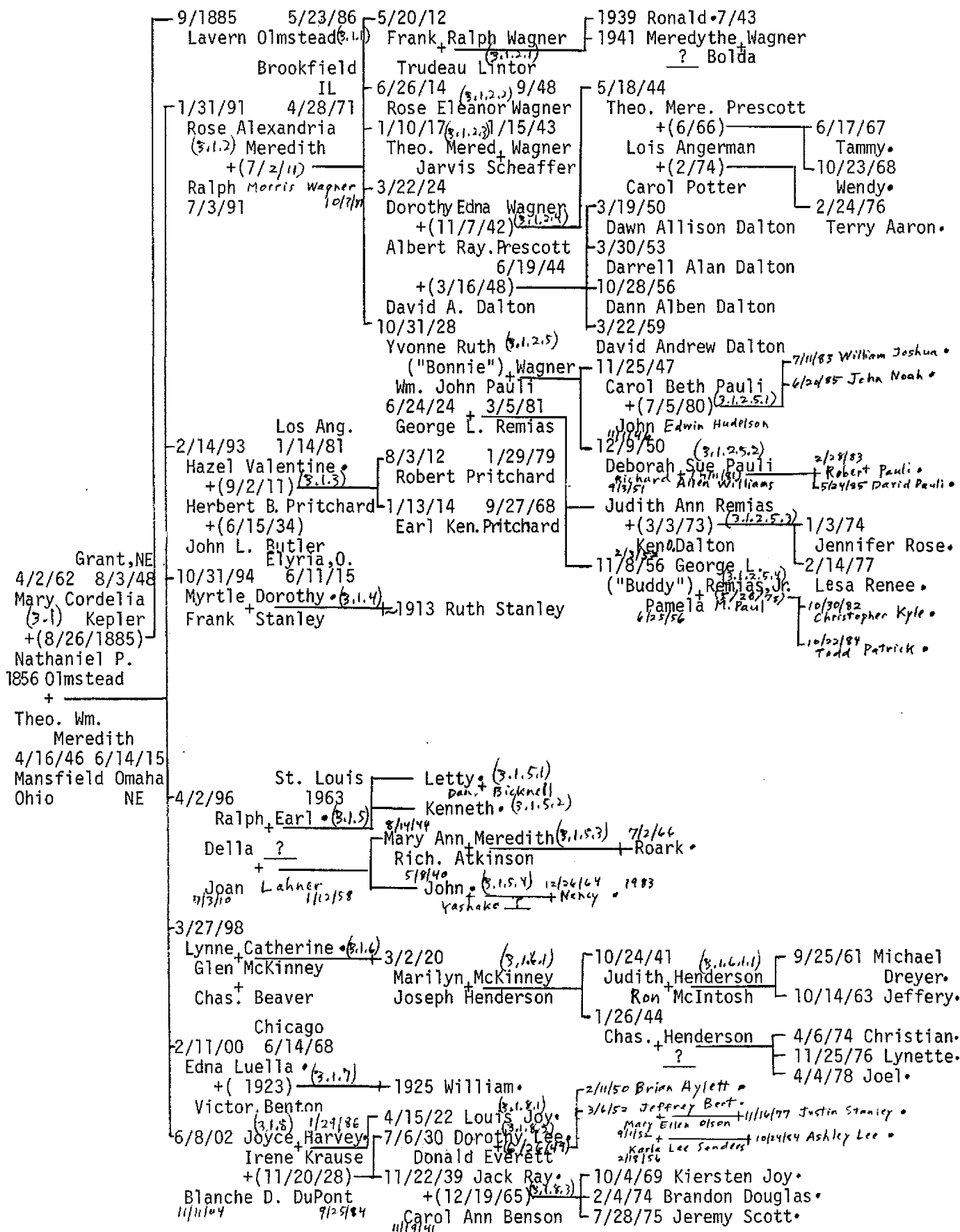


FIGURE 4.44 MARY'S FAMILY CHART



FIGURE 4.45 MARY KEPLER MEREDITH'S FAMILY PICTURES
(Top left: Mary, about 1885; Right: Myrtle; Bottom:
Joyce, Edna, Lynne, Ralph, Hazel, Rose)

**Obituary of Mary Meredith
Who Passed Away Aug. 3;
Rites Thursday Afternoon**

Mary Cordelia Kepler, the eldest daughter of Solomon and Philena Kepler, was born April 2, 1862, in De Kalb County, Indiana. She departed this life at her home in Grant, Nebr., August 3, 1948, at the age of 86 years, 4 months, and 1 day.

When a child she moved with her parents in a covered wagon to a farm near Webster City, Iowa. Here she grew to womanhood, and in 1888 was married to Dr. T. W. Meredith, and then moved to Omaha, Nebr. She had seven children, of whom six survive: Mrs. Rose Wagner, of Brookfield, Ill.; Mrs. Hazel Butler, of Los Angeles; Ralph Meredith, Mrs. Lynne Beaver, and Mrs. Edna Benton, all of Chicago; and Joyce Meredith, of San Bruno, Calif.

About 1903 she moved to Zion, Ill., moving to Grant in 1912. She was known and loved by all for her many kindnesses and cheerful words. Although in poor health, she managed to care for herself and her home until two weeks before her death. Her daughter, Lynne, was with her and gave her all the love and care that was humanly possible until death came to release her from her sufferings.

Some years ago she accompanied Dr. Bell on many of his stork calls, and loved to refer to her "babies", many of whom remembered her on Mother's Day, throughout the years.

Her niece, Mrs. Art Pump, kept a watchful eye on her, as her own children were miles away.

Funeral services were conducted at the Congregational church Thursday afternoon, and burial was made in the Venango cemetery, under the direction of Lyon Funeral Directors.

FIGURE 4.46 OBITUARY OF MARY KEPLER MEREDITH

June 8 1884

Dear Sister Rosa,

May your life ever be blest,
With friends selected from the best,
May peace and com(f)ort be you(r) lot,
Fore I only ask Rosa foreget me not.
Your Sister M.C.K.

June 4 5 1884

Dear Sister Rosa,
.....

May your life ever be blest.
~~May~~ With friends selected from the best.
May peace and com(f)ort be you(r) lot.
Fore I only ask Rosa foreget me not.

Your Sister M.C.K.
.....

Rosa, be virtuous, good and true,
Our best wishes surely centre on you.
So your life will be happy and blest,
And heaven will finally be your rest.
Jan. 28th 1891. Your brother Doc.

Rosa be virtuous, good and true;
Our best wishes surely centre on you.
So your life will be happy and blest,
And heaven will finally be your rest.
Jan. 28th, 1891 Your brother Doc.

FIGURE 4.47 AUTOGRAPHS OF MARY'S FAMILY IN ROSA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK ("DOC" IS DR. MEREDITH)

Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 29, 1906.

Nov. 29, 1906

Wishes on Earth,
Are often given
But my wish for you
Is a home in heaven
Your niece
Hazel Meredith.

Thanksgiving Day

Zion City
Ill.

Wishes on earth,
are often given
But my wish for you
Is a home in heaven
Your niece
Hazel Meredith.

Zion City Ill.

Nov. 29, 1906

Around went the Album,
Hither it came
For me to write in,
So here is my name.

Nov. 29, 1906

Around went the Album,
Hither it came
For me to write in,
So here is my name.

Your niece

Rose Meredith

Your niece
Rose Meredith

FIG. 447 (CONT.)



Left: Dell, Hazel, Ralph with Kenny
and Letty, Edna, Lillian Bute

FIGURE 4.50



Hazel with Bert Pritchard the day he left for the
Royal Flying Corps, Aug., 9, 1917

FIGURE 4.49



Left: Joe and Esther Robbins (3.6.3), Lynne, Charles Beaver, Dorothy
Wagner with Rose Wagner, boy is Ted Wagner

FIGURE 4.48

noted that there is some confusion in the birth years of Rose and Hazel, an old note of Mary's listing their birth years as 1890 and 1892. However, Mary's sister Rosa Belle was present at Rose's birth and testified as to the year being 1891.

Myrtle eloped with a man named Frank Stanley and died as a young mother of tuberculosis. The daughter was raised by the husband's mother. Ralph was married twice (Figure 4.50), having two children in each marriage. Lynne now lives near her daughter Marilyn in Santa Barbara. Edna, a nurse, died from a rupture while lifting a patient too heavy for her. Joy lives in a mobile home part in Escondido, California.

As the oldest child in a strict, farming family, Mary had a hard life. As a child and young woman she worked the farm with Solomon and, unlucky in marriage, had to take in washing and scrub floors to feed her family by herself. The harsh rigors of raising her family alone left her crippled in later life (Figure 4.40).

The picture of Mary in Figure 4.45 is contemporary with that of Figure 4.37, possibly even predating it. There are no pictures of the young Meredith family since Mary had inadequate money to feed her family, much less photograph it. Dr. Meredith was Welsh and supposedly short with dark hair and eyes.

The single picture of Myrtle is also the only one known to exist. Myrtle was a favorite of Dr. Meredith, probably because she had his dark features and was so pretty. Once when she was in her white Sunday dress he went to get a camera to take her picture. When he came back he found her playing in a coal pile. Another time he took her fishing and she got the first bite. He told her not to let go so she didn't and the fish pulled her into the lake. Another time she offered to trade him 10 morninglory seeds for 10 cookies. When she was older, she often got her younger sisters to do what she wanted by cutting up little pieces of paper and writing 1, 5, 10, 25, or 50 cents on each one and giving them out as "rewards". The only time she ever gave out a 50 cent paper was once when she got Lynne to spend a whole Saturday cleaning the house.

Delilah Delila (she spelled it without the h) was a favorite among her hephews and nieces, and among everyone who knew her. She studied in the rural schools near Solomon's farm south of Webster City and attended the first high school in Webster City. She later taught school east of Stanhope. She married William Ewing Bute in 1886 and, being a carpenter, he built their home, adding on to it as their family grew. In The Bute's from Scotland Erma Jane Weaver describes the house:

"There were three bedrooms upstairs, a large living room, dining room, and kitchen. I remember the cast iron high-back wood stove with a large tea kettle that always sat over the remaining warmth of the buring embers. A kitchen sink was in the corner, with a hand pump. Back of this was the bathroom and opposite, the pantry room. Outside the house, not far from the back door was the cistern and pump. Off the back porch were a few steps down into a storage cellar where food was kept. The floor was dirt, with wooden shelves lining the walls to hold the canned garden goods from the summer garden. Grandmother had a fairly large garden."

John Bute (3.2.4) comments:

Corn is an Iowa crop standby-- oats, barley, good but wheat poor-- I would guess 80 acres. Few cattle ... This place also had a large pond where the town folks skated. Sometimes at night; put a lantern out. One cow would supply meat for a whole family, but that was done by a butcher named Wilson. He killed and butchered in the field. I went with them often. Some folks killed a hog to eat. Frank (2.4) was one. Perhaps some wheat was raised for bread, milled at Bells Mill on Boone River.

Stanhope was so small-- 275 people. Even one man had trouble to make a living. Delila washed and ironed a bushel basket of clothes for 75 cents. They froze before she could get them on the line. Delila's husband (William) made \$1 a day wages. Worked during summer very hard at carpentry work, but during winter-- no work. As children we would ask for 1 cent to buy candy and father William would give us a penny.

William helped build the Church of Christ in 1899. After the fires in the town (see Chapter 3), William was one of the carpenters who helped rebuild the town. He was on the roof of one building, helping to put across roof supports when one gave way and he fell two stories. The injury caused him to give up carpentry and become a sales agent (land, washing machines, etc.).

Erma concludes:

"My lasting memory of my grandfather William came when my family vacationed there during the summer. He sat in an old captain's chair, leaning against the south side of the house, with his hat pulled over his eyes. He just liked to snooze in the hot sun, never had much to say. As mealtime came around, he came in about as quick as the rest of us."

The home he built and they lived in for over 50 years is shown in the center of Figure 4.51, which also shows their grown children. A picture of William and Delila in the late 1880s, and one of Delila and probably a cousin (possibly Alfred's daughter Ida E. (5.3), Figures 4.78 and 4.80, or more likely, Issac G. Kepler's wife Eliza (5.2) since "Lizzie" was written on the back of the photo), are included in Figure 4.52. Also in Figure 4.52 is the "Four Generations" picture of Philena, Delila, Celestial, and Celestial's son Benjamin Ward, Jr., taken about 1921. Note the familiar backdrop in the picture of Delila and William and the "elegant" backdrop in the picture of Delila and friend/relative. Delila's friend is holding her other glove in her right hand. Note the 19 buttons on her dress. Delila's and William's autographs are shown in Figure 4.53, along with Celestial's and Nellie's. In Figure 4.54 is a description of Delila's 80th birthday party and her obituary from 1962.

Figure 4.55 depicts Delila's family chart. Nellie taught school in Stanhope for a year and a half and then decided to move around and see other cities. She stayed in Des Moines awhile and then Kansas City where she met her first husband, William M. Roberts. They moved to Seattle, Washington, and lived there until he became sick, returning to Kansas City. After he died in 1910, Nellie remarried Carl Weaver and had three children. Nellie loved traveling, camping, parties, and an exciting social life; she was a very sociable person.

Elvin was a veteran of World War I and a conductor and brakeman for the Illinois Central Railroad. He loved to travel and every summer took his son on many long trips.

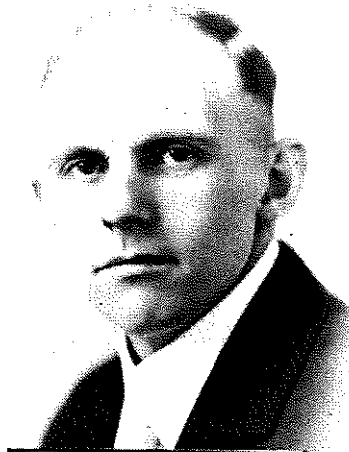
Celestial married a veterinarian and lived in Anthon, Iowa. They used to winter in San Benito, Texas but now winter with their son in Tampa, Florida.

John was a World War I veteran too. Though he had no children of his own, he has a step-daughter Frances and two grandchildren, Kathryn and William and three great-grandchildren: Theresa, Deborah, and Melissa.

Glenn was also a World War I vet. He was a chemistry teacher in a high school and also in a junior college and developed many products in his own basement laboratory.



NELLIE



ELVIN



CELESTIAL



WILLIAM



MR. & MRS. WILLIAM D.
AND WILLIAM EDWARD
JUNIOR
in Harrison, Iowa



DELILA



JOHN



GLENN



LILLIAN

FIGURE 4.51 DELILA'S FAMILY PICTURE



FIGURE 4.52 DELILA'S THREE SEASONS, (AS A YOUNG WOMAN WITH A FRIEND (PROBABLY ISAAC'S WIFE ELIZA OR ELSE IDA E.); AS A WIFE WITH HUSBAND WILLIAM; AS A GRANDMOTHER IN FOUR GENERATIONS WITH PHILENA, CELESTIAL, AND CELESTIAL'S SON BENJAMIN WARD, JR.

Dear Sister



Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face."

Dear Sister:

"Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face."

April 4, 1884

April 4 1884

Delila Kepler

Webster City Iowa

Sister Delila

Delila Kepler



The Lord cares for those
that cares for him
Your Truly
W.E.B.

Stanhope Iowa
Friend Delila
From your Affection
Friend W.E. Bute

The year we had the measles
Jul 13 1878 Delila Jane Kepler
Jul 13 1878 Delila Jane Kepler
Delila Kepler June 7th 1887 in town
D Delila Kepler

FIGURE 4.53 DELILA'S FAMILY'S AUTOGRAPHS IN ROSA AND DELILA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Dear Mother,

Remember me early

Remember me late

Remember me at
the golden gate

Nellie Bute

Stanhope
Iowa



Dear Mother,

Remember me early

Remember me late

Remember me at
the golden gate

Remember me
Nov 27 1898

Nellie Bute
Stanhope Iowa

Nov 27, 1898

Stanhope Iowa

1884

Remember the Lord in the day of thy
youth.

Stanhope Iowa Dec 26 1884

Remember the Lord in the day of thy
youth.

Your Truly

W. E. Bute

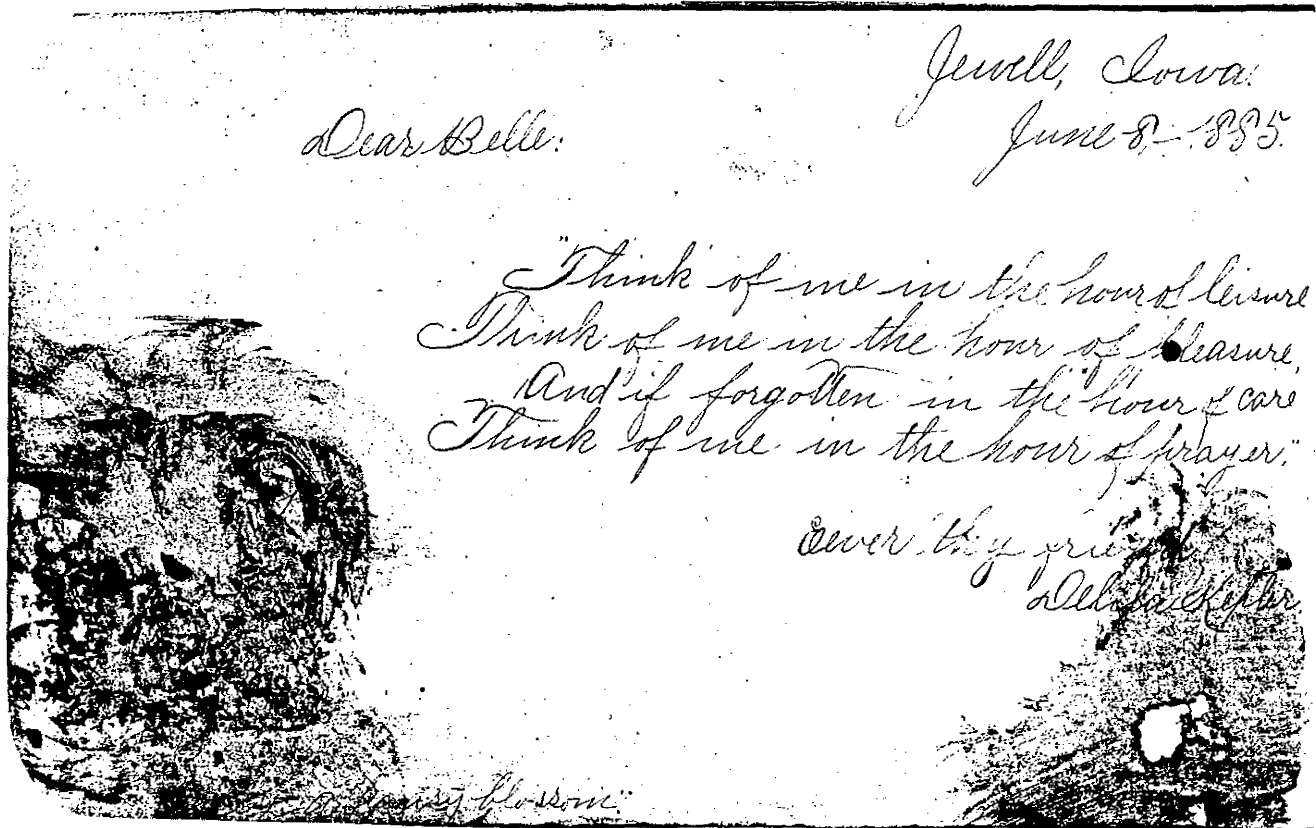
H. O. Bute

"Ever your Obediant
Child"
Celestial Bute

"Ever your obedient child"

Celestial Bute

FIG. 4.53 (CONT.)



Jewell, Iowa June 8, 1885

Dear Belle:

Think of me in the hour of leisure,
Think of me in the hour of pleasure,
And if forgotten in the hour of care,
Think of me in the hour of prayer.

Ever thy friend,
Delila Kepler

... by a fansy blossom"

FIGURE 4.53 FROM BELLE'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Feb 17 1968

Mrs. Bute, 98, Died Friday

Feb 16

Mrs. Delila Bute, 98, longtime resident of the Stanhope community, died at 9 p.m. Friday at the Highland nursing home in Des Moines.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Methodist church in Stanhope with the Rev. Reed Richards officiating. Burial will be in the Lawn Hill cemetery. The body will lie in state at the Foster funeral home until 11 a.m. Tuesday when it will be taken to the church.

Delila Jane Kepler, daughter of Solomon and Philena Kepler, was born Feb. 14, 1864, in Stubbins county, Ind. When she was a small girl, she moved with her parents to Iowa, locating on a farm south of Webster City.

She received her elementary schooling in the rural schools and later attended the first high school in Webster City.

She was united in marriage to William Bute and the couple made their home in Stanhope where Mr. Bute engaged in the carpentry trade.

For the past five years, Mrs. Bute had resided in Des Moines.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1937; by her parents, two brothers and five sisters.

Surviving are three daughters and three sons, Mrs. Nellie Weaver of Kansas City, Mo., Mrs. Celestial Ward of Anthon, Iowa, and Mrs. Lillian Wolff of Des Moines; Elvin W. Bute of Waterloo, John E. Bute of Washington, D. C. and Glen L. Bute of Chicago, Ill.; 12 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren; and one brother, Jacob Kepler of Lemon, S. D.

Mrs. Bute was a longtime member of the Methodist church at Stanhope.

"Mrs. Delila Bute, observed her eightieth birthday at the home of her daughter Mrs. Lillian Wolfe in Des Moines on Monday the 14th. (February 1944.) Among her gifts were a telephone talk with her daughter, Mrs. Weaver (Nellie) of Kansas City, Mo.; a message from her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Ward (Bonnie) (Celestial) of Anthon, telling her another grandson Donald Ward has been promoted to captain, making two sons of Dr. and Mrs. Ward captains in the army corps. Mrs. Wolfe baked and presented her mother with a lovely decorated birthday cake, while the little granddaughter, Doris Ann sang "Happy Birthday to you, Dear Grandmother Bute." Concluding the days happy time Mrs. Bute and Lillian attended a very interesting lecture. In concluding her note to the Editor, Mrs. Bute says she received over 40 cards, \$24.00 in cash, and many other fine gifts, among which was a lovely sterling silver pin with an amethyst setting. She says come along with her and let us all grow old together, for the best is yet to come. If the younger generation can be as active and really enjoy life when they are 80 years young as Mrs. Bute does, they will be a happy people."

FIGURE 4.54 DELILA'S 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY AND OBITUARY

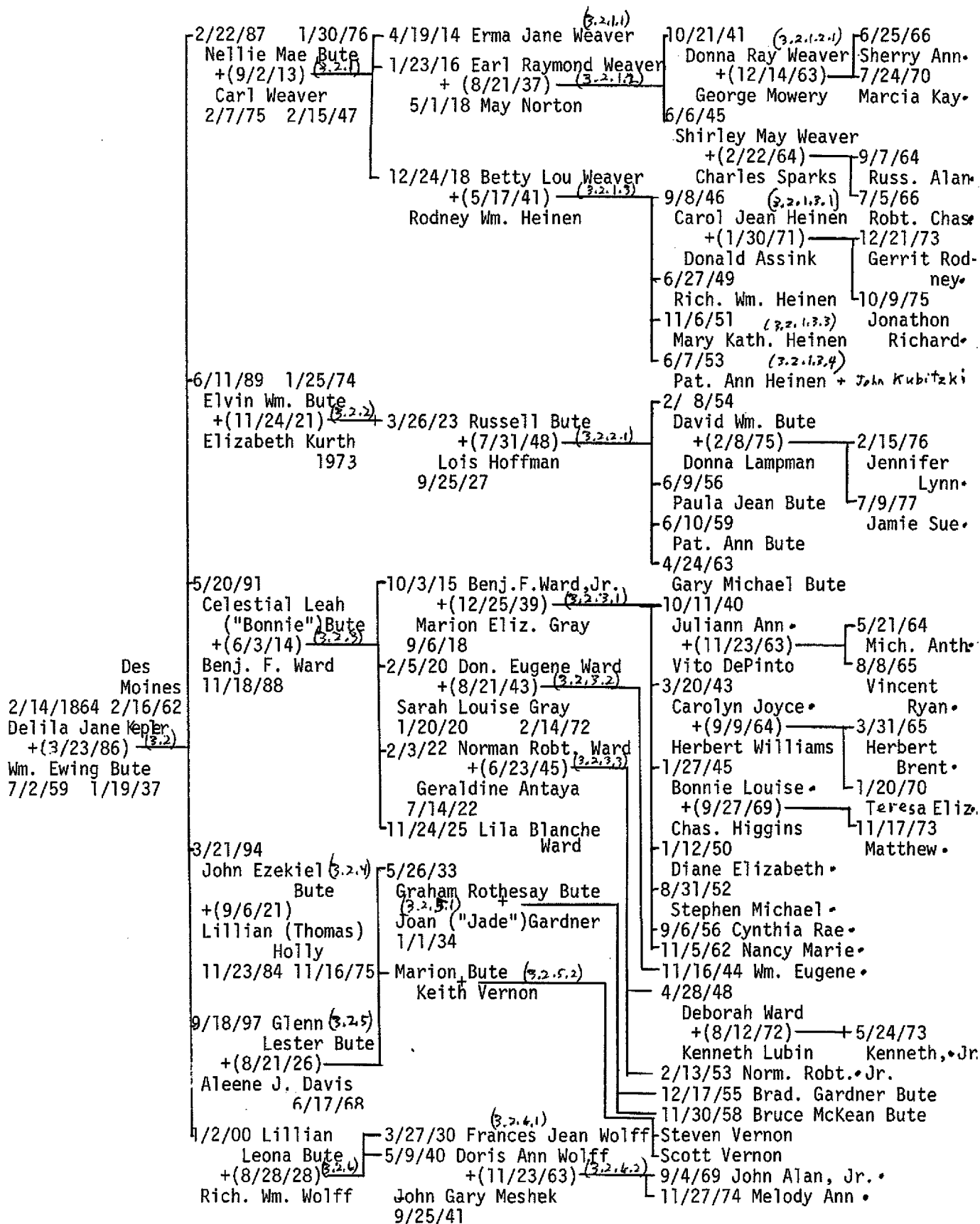


FIGURE 4.55 DELILA'S FAMILY CHART

Lillian married an engineer and lived in Detroit. Later they moved back to Des Moines where Lillian taught in both public and church schools. (Lillian has also been of immense help in making contacts and obtaining photos and information for this book. I have been constantly amazed at the number of pictures I have of relatives that she is also in, whether in Chicago, Nebraska, or Iowa. No matter where or the year, she's always there, and always looks the same-- about 25. Amazing!)

Lopedia Most of the few photos we have of Lopedia and her family (Figure 4.56), as well as the obituaries, Figure 4.57, were generously supplied by Edna Juanita Edverson, her daughter-in-law. After marrying, Lopedia and Casper Edverson moved south of Williams, Iowa, until about 1920 when they moved into Webster City. Casper died in 1937 and Lopedia not long thereafter, in 1939. No pictures of Lopedia's other children, Rosa, Louise, and Milo were available, unfortunately. Lopedia's family chart is shown in Figure 4.58, and other pictures in Figure 4.59. Lopedia's nieces remember her as a very jolly sort.

Rhoda Rhoda married a widower, Joseph D. Gee from Cottonwood, Minnesota, who had five children. Rhoda and he then had four more (see Figure 4.60). When Joe died in 1912 Rhoda couldn't manage the farm and keep the children also, so they were separated. Adelaide never married, working as a social worker in Hibbing, Minnesota, and died from cancer in 1976. Florabel worked all her life as a nurse at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, her husband dying soon after their marriage. She is retired now and still resides in Chicago. George was killed in an auto accident in Iowa at a young age. Ben lived near Plainfield, Illinois and had one daughter, Marilyn, Rhoda's only grandchild. Marilyn summarizes her father's life briefly as follows:

"Ben moved from Iowa to Minnesota at the age of 2 or 3 and went to a country school in the Cottonwood area until the eighth grade. He was interested in continuing but, due to his father's death, at Ben's age of 12, he had to quit to help farm. For the next number of years he helped his mother and half brothers farm and ranch from Minnesota to Montana to Arizona and back again. He held many jobs of many different types. In 1942 he entered the Navy and came out in 1946. The rest of his employment years were spent as Golf Course Superintendent at Nordic Hills Country Club, Itasca, Ill. We lived in the county near Itasca about 20 miles west of Chicago. Upon his retirement, the state wished to buy the house for a highway so he was forced to sell and moved to Lockport where he spent his remaining years."

Rhoda's photograph as a young woman and her autograph are in Figure 4.61 and a letter to Juanita written from her home in Cottonwood Oct. 25, 1945 (mailed with a 3 cent stamp) is shown in Figure 4.62. Pictures of Rhoda and Joe Gee and other family members are shown in Figures 4.63 to 4.65, courtesy of Marilyn. Another photo of, possibly, Flossie Adelaide, is Figure 4.59.

Rosa Much of this book is viewed, by way of the autographs and poems, through the eyes of Rosa, a 14 year old farm girl in Iowa in 1885. Her daughter Bessie describes her as follows: "She was very quiet and serious, having practically no sense of humor. Rosa was very religious from the time she was very young, and always did what she thought was right."

At the age of 23 Rosa married Thomas Johnson. After the birth of their fourth child, Rosa and Thomas moved to Zion, IL in 1902, but then moved to a farm in Grant, Neb. in March, 1907. In 1912, Thomas died and Rosa faced the arduous task of raising seven children, including a newborn, by herself. Her sister Mary oved from Zion to Grant to join her but in 1916 Rosa moved her family (except Pearl, who had married) back to Zion and remained there for the rest of her life.



FIGURE 4.56 LOPEDIA'S FAMILY PICTURES (Casper and Lopedia with grandchildren Beverly and Carl Goll; Harry, Juanita, and baby Allen Edvenson (both pictures 1924); Juanita with grown children Allen, Betty, Richard, and granddaughter Kay Lynn in 1970)

Webster City Iowa March 16, 1884.

Dear Sister Rosa

Remember me when years are fled
When I am numbered with the dead
When there is but one story left to tell
Of a sister who loved you well.

Webster City Iowa
March 16th, 1884

Dear Sister Rosa

Remember me when years are fled
When I am numbered with the dead
When there is but one story left to tell
Of a sister who loved you well.

Your Sister,
Lopedia Kepler

Your Sister.

Lopedia Kepler

Edverson, 61, Dies; Service Is Saturday

Harry Edverson, 61, long time resident of Webster City, died at 5:30 Thursday afternoon at the Hamilton County hospital where he had been a patient for several weeks.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Foster funeral home with the Rev. Robert Scott officiating. Burial will be at Graceland cemetery.

Harry Edverson, son of Casper and Lopedia Edverson, was born September 16, 1884 on a farm near Williams. He attended the Rose Grove school and grew to young manhood in the Webster community.

In 1920, he moved with his parents to Webster City. He was united in marriage May 11, 1924 to Juanita Wiltsey. Mr. Edverson had been employed at the Franklin Manufacturing Co. for the past 22 years.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Juanita Edverson of Webster City, and Richard Edverson of Hollister, Calif., a teacher. Mrs. Clyde (Betty) Edverson of St. Paul, Minn., his grandchildren Linda and Clyde Edverson, Deborah Ann Edverson and Jane Ann Edverson, two sisters, Mrs. Thomas Loach of Chicago, Ill., and Mrs. M. Anderson of Owls, and one brother, Milo Edverson of Eagle Grove.

Mr. Edverson was preceded in death by his parents.

Mr. Edverson was confirmed in the Lutheran faith in the Rose Grove church near Williams and was a member of the Moose lodge.

The Daily Free
Friday, May 26, 1961

DEATH TAKES MRS. EDVENSON

Funeral Services for Webster City Woman Today at Foster's.

Funeral services were held today at 3 p.m. at the Foster funeral home for Mrs. Casper Edverson, 61, who died Saturday at the home of her son, Milo, on the east side. She had been in failing health for several weeks.

The Rev. E. A. Piper, of Fairfield, former pastor of the English Lutheran church here, officiated and burial was made in Graceland cemetery.

Mrs. Edverson had been a resident of Hamilton county since 1869. Her maiden name was Lopedia Adell Kepler and she was born in Stubs county, Indiana, Nov. 24, 1865. After moving here the Kepler family lived on a farm three miles south of Webster City where Miss Lopedia grew to young womanhood. She attended rural schools in Fremont township.

She was a member of the Mount Zion church. March 3, 1887 she was united in marriage to Casper Edverson in this city. They lived south of Williams until 1920, when they moved to this city where they united with the English Lutheran church.

Mr. Edverson died Jan. 14, 1937. She leaves the following children: Mrs. Rosa Anderson Dows, Mrs. Louise Loach, Chicago; Harry and Milo, this city. There are five grandchildren and the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Rosa Johnson, Zion, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Meredith Grant, Neb.; Mrs. Rhoda Gee, Cottonwood, Minn.; Jacob W. Kepler, Thunder Hawk, S. D.; and Mrs. Della Bute, of Stanhope.

Mrs. Edverson was a good mother and a kind neighbor and had many friends who will regret to hear of her death. She was an active worker in the church as long as her health permitted.

FIGURE 4.57 OBITUARY OF LOPEDIA AND SON HARRY AND LOPEDIA'S AUTOGRAPH IN ROSA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

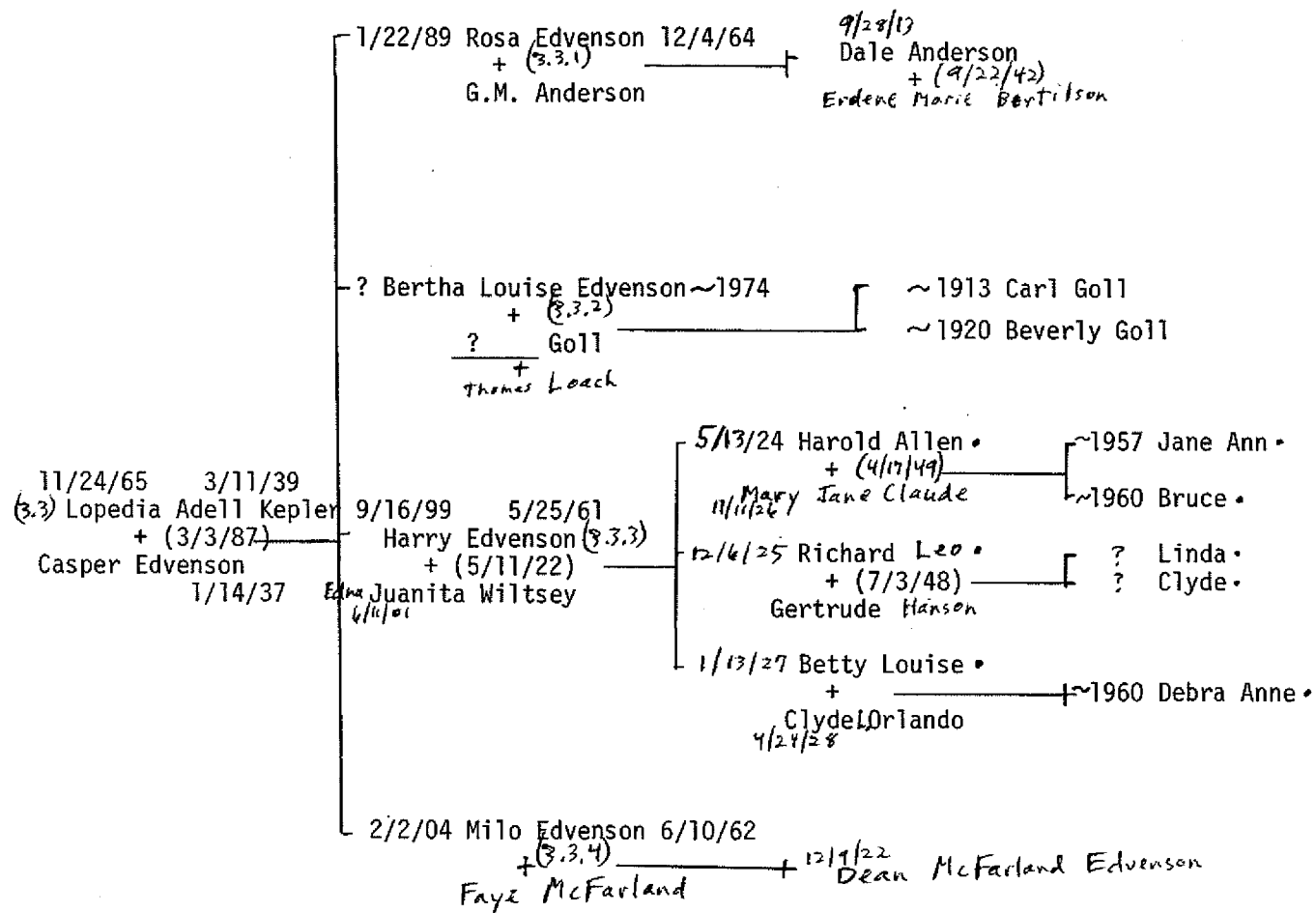


FIGURE 4.56 LOPEDIA'S FAMILY CHART



Left: Casper, Lopedla, Delila, William Bute, Lillian
in Stanhope, Iowa



Left: Casper, William, Delila, Lopedla, Flossie Adelaide Gee,
Lillian in front of William and Delila's home in Stanhope
in about 1916

FIGURE 4.59 LOPEDIA AND CASPER

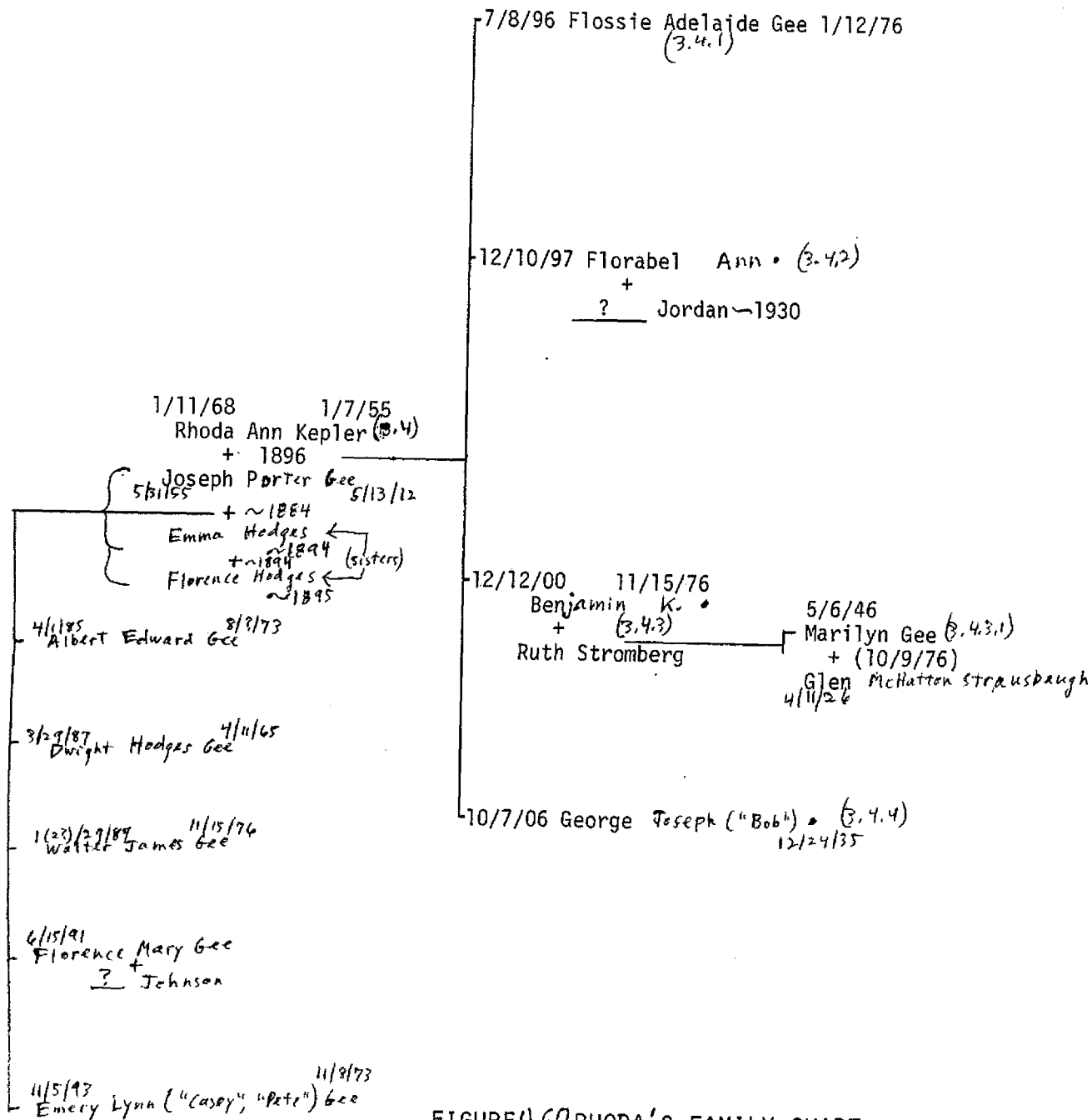


FIGURE 4.60 RHODA'S FAMILY CHART



Albert Lee

14 Jan 1878 1864
 14 of Jan 1878 1864
fifth reader
 fifth reader
Rhodia
 Rhodia
June 14, 1881

FIGURE 4.61 RHODA'S PHOTOGRAPH AND AUTOGRAPH FROM DELILA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK
 STEPSON ALBERT GEE'S AUTOGRAPH FROM ROSA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Cottonwood, Minn
Dear Juanita
The stray dog got
home OK. at noon.
Every thing went
well. till we
got to Trimpe, Pa.
The engine broke
so I walked my
train at Sandborn
got there at 3:30
stayed till 10-30
No hotel. They did
let me stay in
a restaurant
took bus for home
No room at hotel

I ask you, if
I would have to
sleep in streets
with the dogs.
He called some
private home
they came for me
I had a good
evening, 2 beds
A good breakfast
aligned. took my
bedtime. Many thanks
for what I am
to you. Good night
for me. The officer
had the permission

FIGURE 4.62 RHODA'S LETTER TO JUANITA, OCT. 25, 1945

I - all done. They are
trying to buck
Calm, but the
starch are too dry.
I plan to try to
in the ground
with the ground
Dinner I will have
more flowers.
The vegetables in
fire. Gators were
in on train.
When I had
taken all the
back of arena.
One of my neighbor
was a dead man.

I - I had known
him for over 40 years.
They are going to
Note. When a man
young & old. a
collected too much
to find to me.
The people in that
to bad. I close
with the best
of wishes.

I hope
your Aunt
Rhonda
has had a
good time.
To you & all.

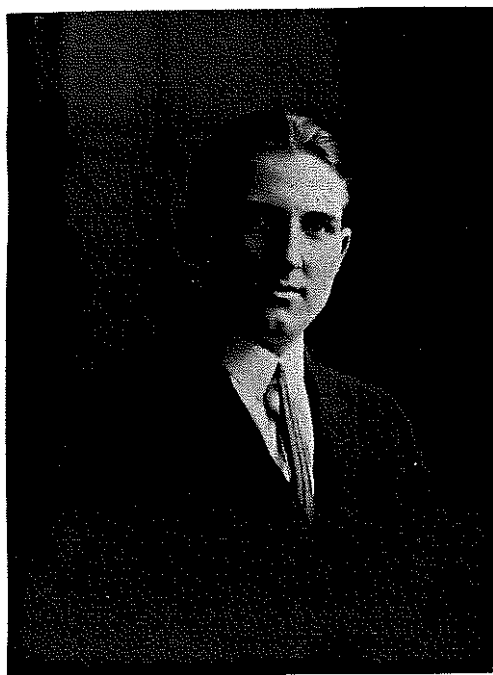
FIG. 4.62 (CONT.)



FIGURE 4.63 JOSEPH GEE AND RHODA



BEN AND GEORGE GEE ABOUT
1915



GEORGE GEE HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION ABOUT 1925

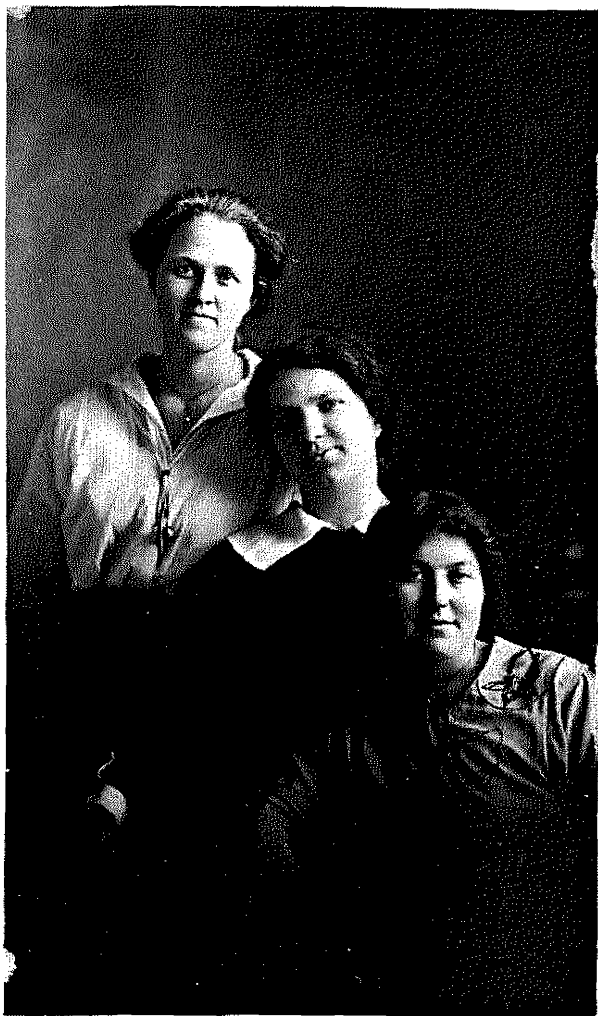


FLORABEL, BEN, ADELAIDE GEE ABOUT 1902

FIGURE 4.64



ADELAIDE AND FLORABEL



FLORENCE (STEP-SISTER), ADELAIDE,
FLORABEL

Rosa's family chart is given in Figure 4.66, her autograph to her sister Delila in Figure 4.67, and some photos of her as a young girl and mother in Figure 4.68. Other photos of Rosa later in life are Figures 4.39 and 4.40. Also, another picture of Esther is Figure 4.48.

Jacob Considerable mystery surrounds the only adult son of Solomon and Philena, mainly because of the apparent loss of contact with him in the late 1940's. "Jake" as he was known ("Uncle Jakie" to his nephews and nieces), was a favorite of Philena and, from his picture in Figure 4.69, looked to be quite handsome. It is believed that he met his wife through a "mail order matrimonial agency". Jake apparently was a teacher for awhile and then a streetcar conductor in Chicago. He used to tell his nephews and nieces: "Remember your Uncle Jake, once a 'con.' in Illinois state."

Joel Bishop, an old rancher in Lemmon, South Dakota, remembered Jacob:

"Mr. Kepler proved up on a quarter of land here in Perkins County about 1906 or 1907 ... He later married (Ed. note: about 1915) and had children..., Some died at birth. They lived in this community on their farm until they separated in the early forties."

Jacob married in a difficult period-- first World War I and then the depression. There was apparently little to eat because he often contemplated selling his wheat seed to buy food for the family. After his divorce he apparently became a sheepherder in Wyoming, dying in 1962 in Bowman, North Dakota.

Jacob's autograph at the age of about 16 in Rosa's book is given in Figure 4.70 and his family chart (courtesy of his granddaughter, Cheryl Cole) in Figure 4.71. Also see Figure 4.40. It might be noted that Jacob's wife Rilla Marguerite Ryder (now Mrs. Ambrose Sullivan) is apparently still alive.

Susan We are fortunate to have as much data about Susie as we have, considering she was only 23 at her death. A picture of her not long before she died is in Figure 4.72 and her autograph in Figure 4.73. It was noted earlier that her middle name has been variously given as Maude and Mandy. Also, her first name was once given as Susannah. But she was known and went by "Susie". Bessie Bennett (3.6.7) notes that Susie's boyfriend was the center of an argument between Bessie's father, Thomas Johnson, and the Keplers once in Zion. Thomas apparently did not approve of the young man and the man left town suddenly, having nothing more to do with Susan.

MARY

Mary Magdalena, George and Catherine's fourth child, was born Jan. 2, 1837, married a farmer, Henry Sour on Nov. 13, 1856, and lived on the farm near Akron until her death from pneumonia on (according to her gravestone in Manchester) May 21, 1891. Doyle confirms in 1908 that she was deceased by then and the Death Records of Summit County (Vol. 2, p. 28, Item 62) state that she lived 54 years, 6 months, 11 days, dying May 19, 1891. (If correct, this would make her birth 11/8/1836.) The map in Chapter 2 shows a farm owned by H. Sours adjoining that of G. Snyder (Susannah's). She and Henry (Figure 4.74) apparently had only the one daughter (Figure 4.75), Clara (Figure 4.76), who married Norman Camp. We don't know if there were children from the marriage.

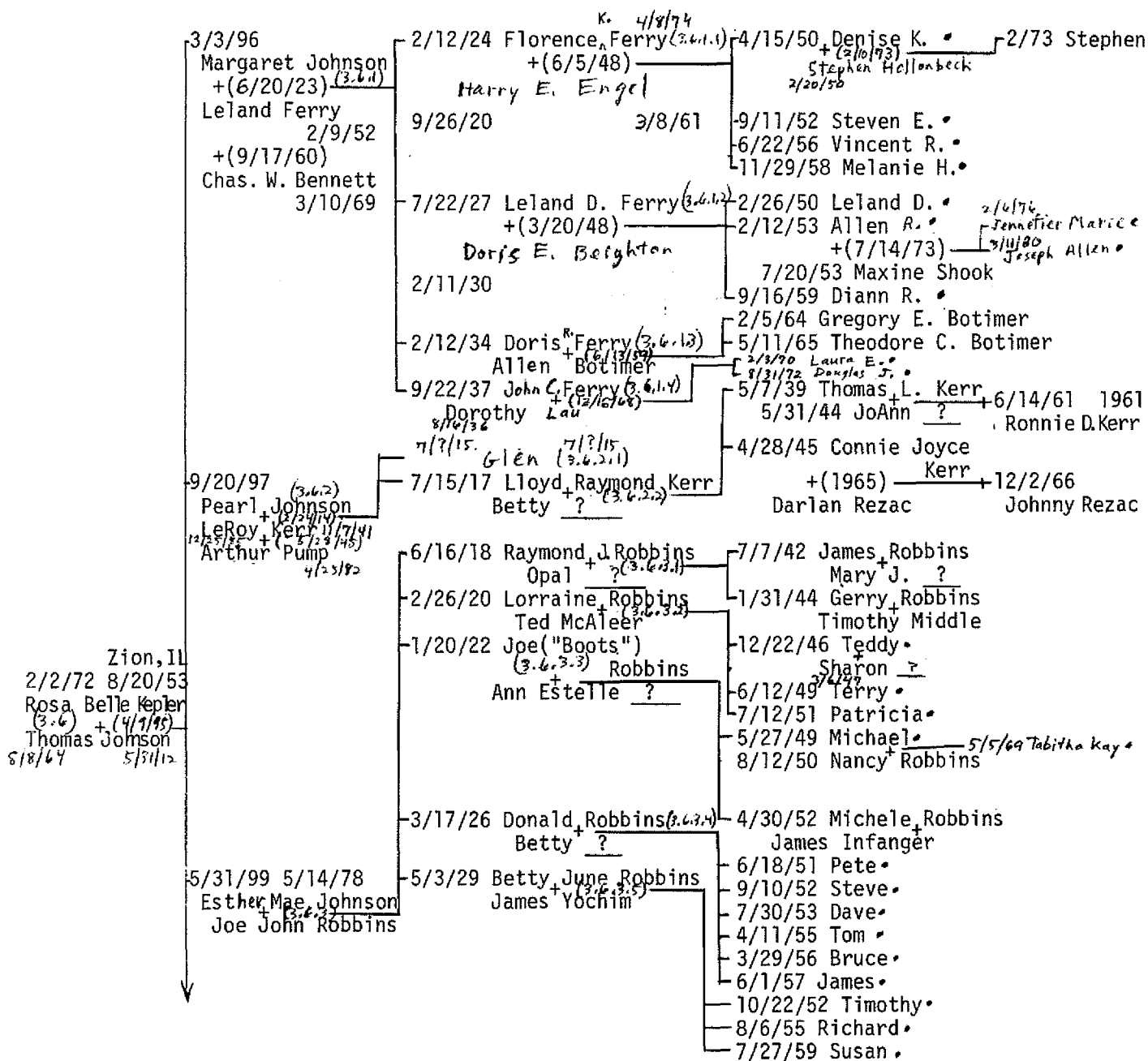
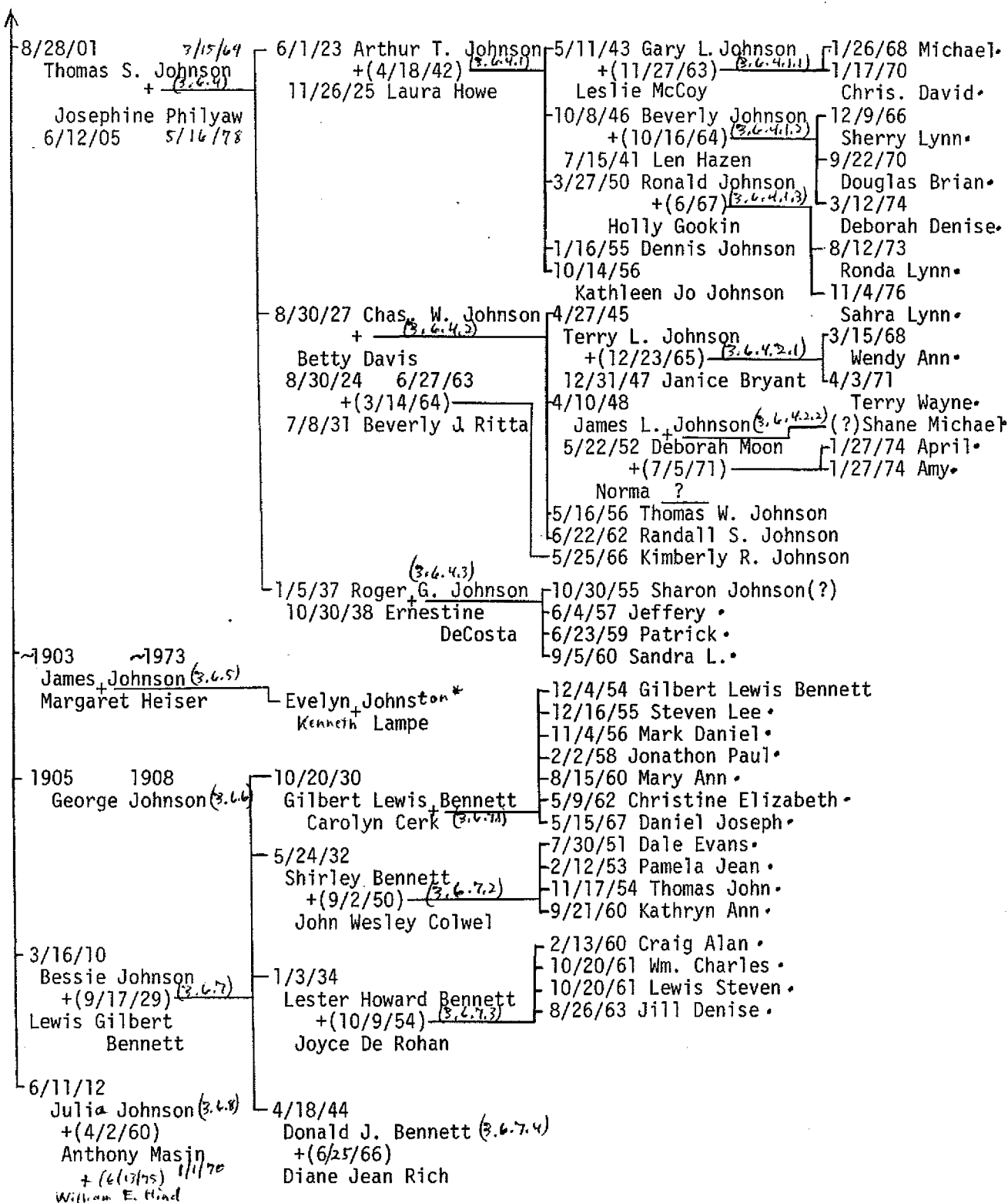


FIGURE 4.66 ROSA'S FAMILY CHART



* Name changed

FIGURE 4.66 (CONT.)

Dear Sister

Remember me when far away.
Remember me at parting day.
Remember me in love so sweet.
Remember me at Jesus feet.

Your Sister
Rosa Kepler

Webster City Iowa
May 1886

Dear Sister

*Remember me when far away.
Remember me at parting day.
Remember me in love so sweet.
Remember me at Jesus feet.*

*Your Sister
Rosa Kepler*

*Webster City Iowa
May 1886.*



FIGURE 4.67 ROSA'S AUTOGRAPH IN DELILA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK



FIGURE 4.68 ROSA'S FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS (Rosa as a young woman;
 Pearl Johnson Pump; About 1914 in Zion, from left: Margaret
 Johnson, Philena, Julia Johnson, Rosa, Hazel Meredith, Pearl Johnson
 Lynd (Marion) C. Kinsley, girl Marie C. Kinsley, baby Arthur J. Johnson (c. 1915)

Jacob Hepler

FIGURE 4,70 JACOB'S AUTOGRAPH IN ROSA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

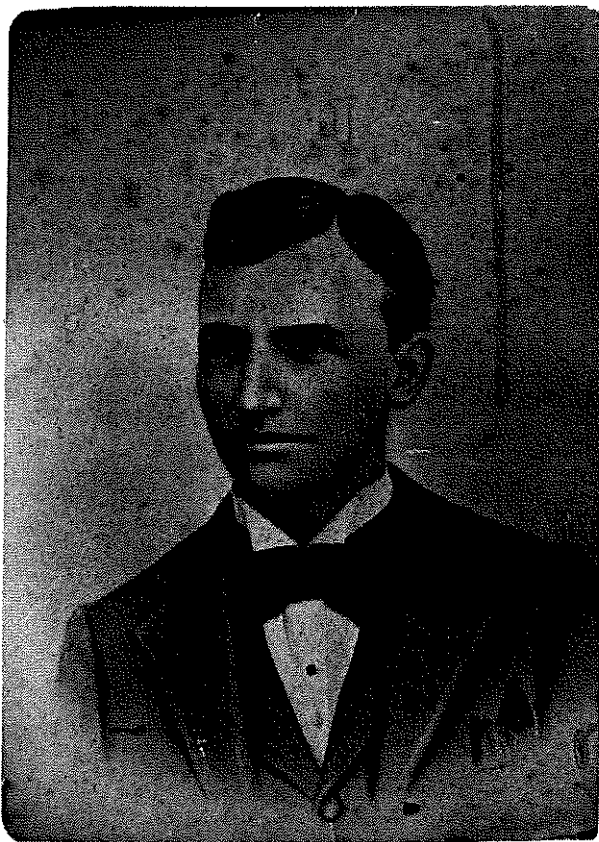


FIGURE 4,69 JACOB'S FAMILY PICTURES (Jacob at about age 22;
Jacob and children: left: Edwin, Keith, Faith)
In So. Dakota about 1922.

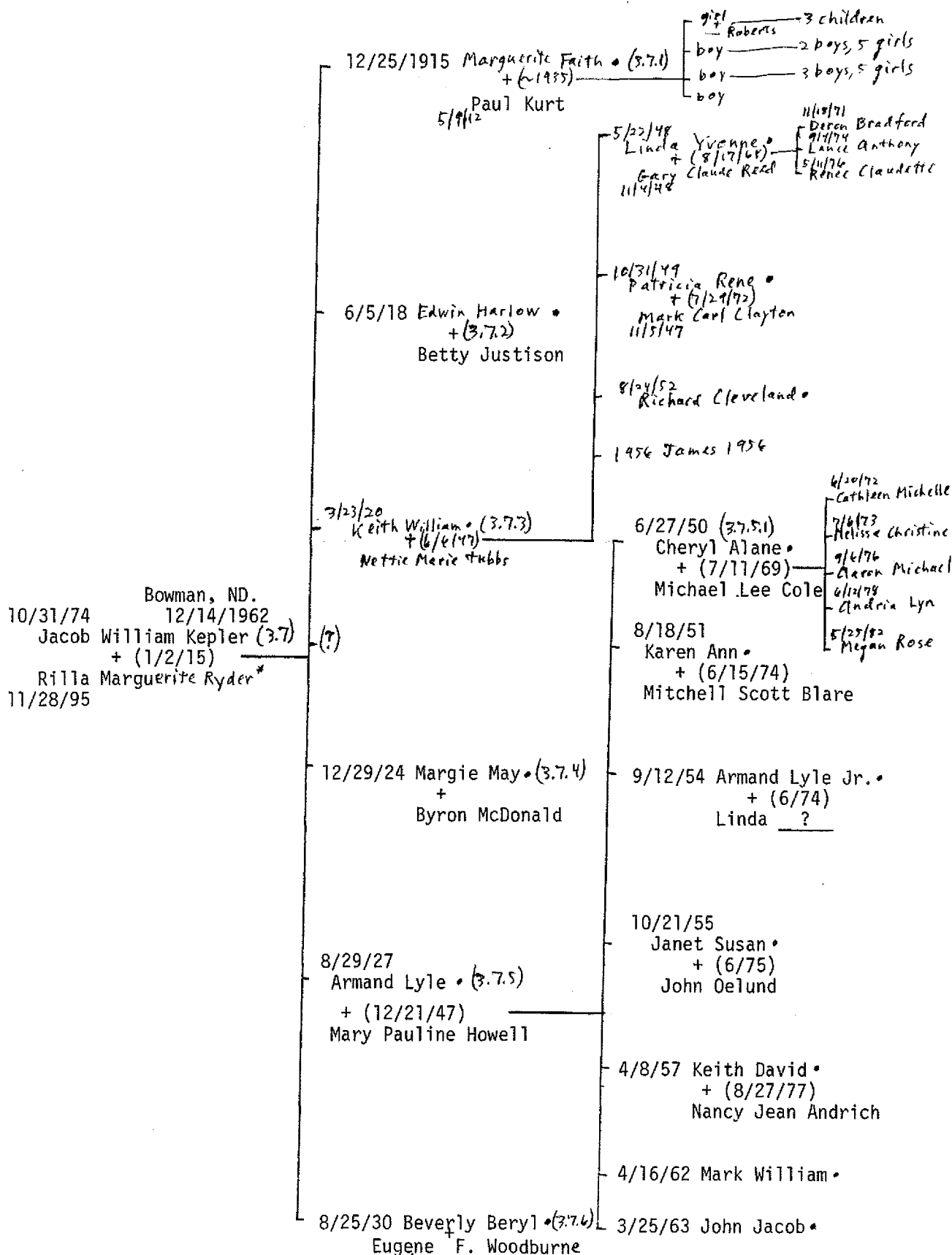


FIGURE 4.71 JACOB'S FAMILY CHART

*Remarried to Ambrose Sullivan about 1945



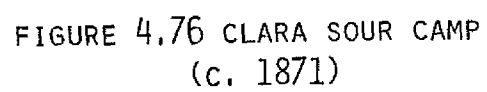
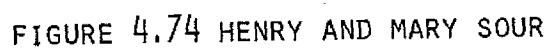
FIGURE 4.72 SUSAN'S PHOTOGRAPH (AT ABOUT AGE 19)

Webster City Iowa Jan 28th 1887.
your loving sister
Happy be thy winter hours,
Bright as sunshine sweet as flowers.
Susie Kepler.
Dygart (?)
Webster City

Webster City Iowa Jan 28th 1887
your loving Sister
Happy be thy winter hours
Bright as sunshine sweet as flowers.
Susie Kepler
Dygart (?)
Webster City

FIGURE 4.73 SUSAN'S AUTOGRAPH AT THE AGE OF 7 IN ROSA'S
AUTOGRAPH BOOK

FIGURE 4.75 MARY'S FAMILY CHART



ALFRED

Alfred's family chart is given in Figure 4.77, family pictures in Figures 4.78 to 4.81, the 1880 Census of his family and Eliza's obituary in Figure 4.82, and some family autographs in Figure 4.83⁶ (We refer to Figure 4.78 as the "SOMEBODY GRAB THE BABY!" picture.)

Alfred went by the name "Alf" and Eliza by "Libbie". In some notes there is a question about possible earlier marriages of Libbie and Alf. In Libbie's case, she may have been married to a man by the name of Boar and had a child before her marriage to Alf. And a "Susan Millinger" may have been an earlier girlfriend or wife of Alf's.

Alf and Libbie's first child Cyrus died as a young infant while they still resided in Indiana. Isaac was also born in Indiana, but contracted scarlet fever and lost the sight in one eye (apparently the left-- see all photos). He married a "good" girl, Eliza (possibly that shown with Delila in Figure 4.52) and moved to Colorado where he later died of tuberculosis. (Isaac's family chart in Figure 4.84 was kindly provided by R. Glen Kepler, his grandson.)

In the summer of 1868, Alf and Libbie moved by covered wagon from Indiana to Iowa, arriving October 12, 1868, barely a month before Ida was born. Ida also contracted scarlet fever as a child which left one leg longer than the other; she died at the age of 23, also of tuberculosis.

Nothing is known about Edward. William's family chart is given in Figure 4.85, he also apparently died of tuberculosis.

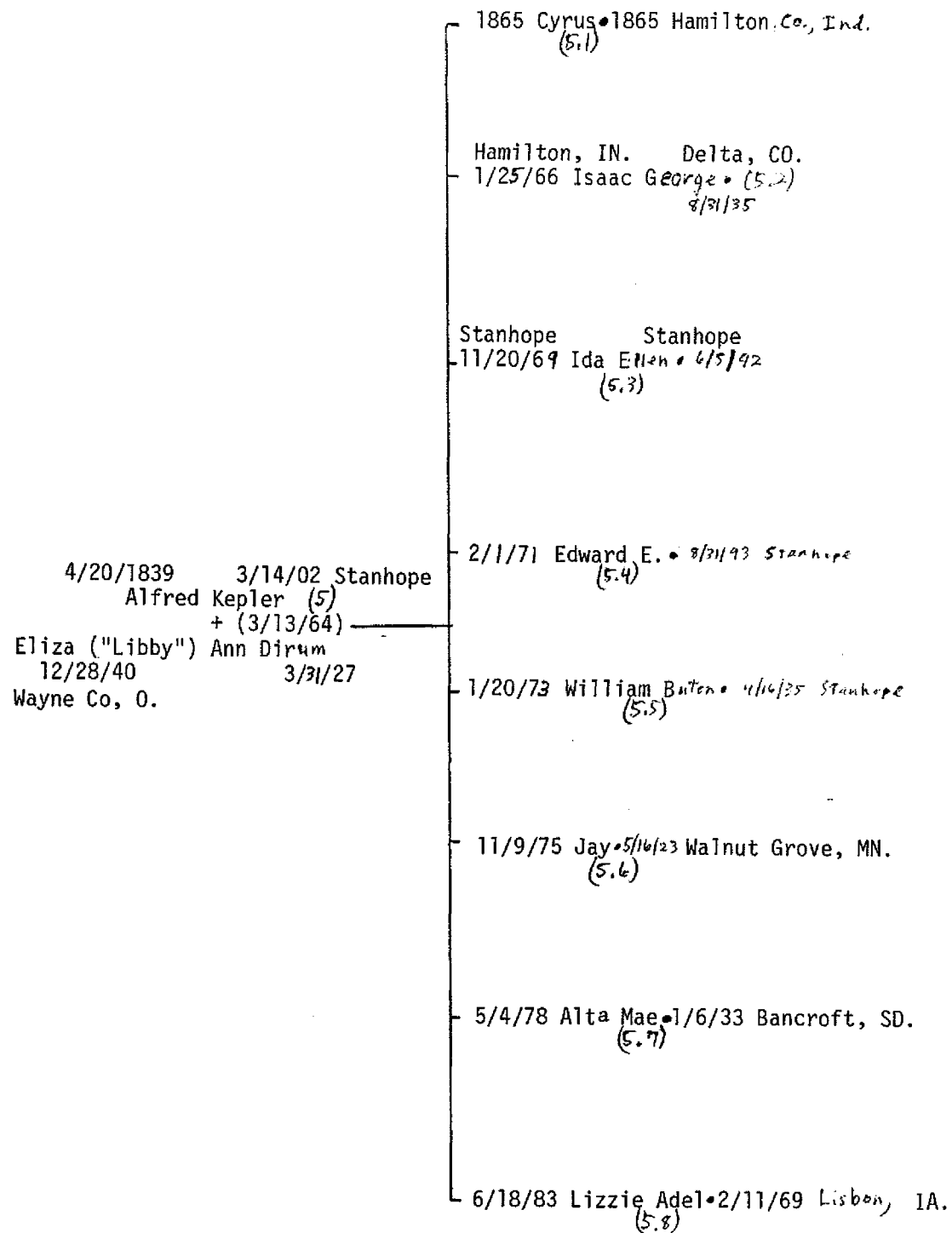
Jay was a "fat, jolly boy" (according to Rhoda, but he doesn't seem so in Figure 4.78). His family chart and wife Zelma's obituary (provided in part by Vernon Kepler (5.6.1.1) and Arlene Carlson (5.6.8)) are given in Figures 4.86 and 4.87. The family information below and a picture of his eldest son Leo's family and obituary are given in Figure 4.88, kindly provided by Vernon.

Jay Kepler, the son of Alfred Kepler, married Zelma McFarland in Stanhope, Iowa on February 19, 1902. They farmed in and around the Sioux Rapids, Iowa vicinity and were a casualty of the bank closings that destroyed so many peoples' fortunes in the early 1900s. I can remember my father talking about his father farming many acres of corn with horses when he was just a teenager and the amount of horses they had.

There were nine children born of Jay and Zelma's marriage. Interesting is the fact that the four Kepler girls married brothers: the Zimke's and the Carlson's. Arlo, the twin, died at birth and is buried at Fanny Hill Cemetery just south of Spencer, Iowa. Carvel Jay drowned in Lake Shetek in southwestern Minnesota on July 29, 1934 leaving behind his widow and four small children. Keith, Carvel's brother, later married Carvel's widow and had another four or five children. Carvel's oldest son, Dallas James Kepler now lives in Sioux Falls, SD.

Jay and the family moved to Walnut Grove, MN in 1918 and farmed in Holly Township. Jay died May 16, 1924 at the age of 47 from stomach cancer. In 1929,

6. We are indebted to Beryl Moffit and Lucille Marx for gathering much of this information.



Note: Other sources list: Eliza d. 3/6/27; Isaac b. 1/26/66; Ida b. 11/20/68, d. 6/5/91; Edward b. 2/5/70; William b. 1/20/72; Lizzie d. Tipton, IA
Info shown from Delila Bute's records except d. of Eliza from obituary.

FIGURE 4.77 ALFRED'S

FAMILY CHART



FIGURE 4.76 ALFRED'S FAMILY PICTURE (back row, left: William B., Edward, Isaac, Jay, Ida; front row: baby Lizzie Adel, Eliza, Alta Mae, Alfred) c. 1884



ALFRED AND ELIZA

FIGURE 4.79



LEFT: ISAAC, JAY (STANDING), EDWARD, WILLIAM



ISAAC AND IDA

FIGURE 4.80



LIZZIE ADELE AND ALTA MAE



SEATED LEFT: ALFRED, ELIZA, LIZZIE
STANDING: ISAAC, JAY, ALTA, WILLIAM

FIGURE 4.81



DAY
JUN 2 1890
IOWA

LEFT: ISAAC, WILLIAM, JAY

Obituary.

Mrs. Eliza Dirum was born in Wayne county, Ohio, Dec. 28, 1840, and died at the home of her son, W. B. Kepler, March 31, 1927, aged 86 years, 3 month and three days.

She was married to Alfred Kepler March 13, 1864. They made their home near Hamilton, Ind., for four years, then in 1868 came to Hamilton county, Iowa, being one of the first and also last of the early pioneers of the county. She had made her home in Iowa every since, with the exception of a short time in Colorado and South Dakota. She was the mother of eight children. Her husband and four children preceded her in death. Those left to mourn are Isaac, Delta, Colo.; Alta Stemple, Bancraft, S. D.; W. B. Kepler, of Stanhope, and Lizzie Anderson, of Lisbon. One brother and three sisters live in Indiana and Ohio. There are 33 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and a host of friends. Mrs. Kepler was converted early in life and was generous, kind and unassuming. In their home was held many a prayer meeting before there was a church building near. The M. E. church today stands on a corner lot donated by them.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. G. H. Dick. Burial was made in the Lawn Hill cemetery. Those present from a distance were a sister, Mrs. Lavina Enzor, of Columbus, Ohio; I. G. Kepler, of Delta, Colo.; Mrs. Henry Stemple, of Bancraft, S. D.; Mrs. Lizzie Anderson, of Lisbon, Mrs. Jay Kepler, Keith and Arlene, of Walnut Grove, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Kepler, Eagle Grove; Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Kepler, Minneapolis; Mr. and Mrs. Edmunson, Webster City; Mrs. Nellie Kauffman, Eagle Grove, and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Carlson, Stratford.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to thank our friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during the sickness and death of our beloved mother, also the floral offering, choir and all others who so kindly helped us in our bereavement.

Kepler Family.

K146.
Kepler Alfred

IOWA
Vol 14 2027
SHEET 4 LINE 38
Ohio
Clear Lake Twp.
Hamilton
COUNTY

NAME RELATIONSHIP AGE BIRTHPLACE

Kepler, Eliza	W	37	Ohio
Isaac	S	14	Indiana
Ida	D	11	Iowa
Edward	S	9	Iowa
Willie	S	7	Iowa

1880 CENSUS INDEX
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Kepler Alfred

STATE Iowa

OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY - CONTINUED

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	BIRTHPLACE
Kepler Jay	S	4	Iowa
Alta May	D	2	Iowa

1880 CENSUS INDEX
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

FIGURE 4.82 1880 CENSUS OF ALFRED'S FAMILY & OBITUARY OF ELIZA

Stanhope Ia Feb the 18 1884
Friend Delila

Stanhope Ia Feb the 18 84

Let not our friendship be like the rose to sever
But like the evergreen may it last forever

Eliza Kepler Yours truly Isaac G. Kepler

Friend Delila

*Let not our friendship be like the rose
to sever.
But like the evergreen may it last forever*

Yours truly

Eliza Kepler Isaac G. Kepler

*Stanhope Iowa August the 31 1884
When the blazing sun is setting
And from care your mind is free
and of absent ones your thinking
Wont you sometimes think of me.*

Stanhope Iowa August the 31, 18(8?)4

When the blazing sun is setting
And from care your mind is free
And of absent ones your thinking
Wont you sometimes think of me.

Yours truly

Isaac Kepler

Yours, Truly

Isaac Kepler

FIGURE 4.83 AUTOGRAPHS OF ALFRED'S FAMILY IN ROSA AND
DELILA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOKS



Dear Brother

Stanhope May 27 1892

Stanhope May 27 1892

Dear Brother (?)

Remember me early

Remember me early

Remember me late

Remember me late

Remember me at the
golden gate

Remember me at the
golden gate.

Yours Brother

Your brother (?)

Lizzie Adell Kepler

Lizzie Adell Kepler

Friend Delila,-

"I live for those who love me,
Whose hearts are kind and true,
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And the good that I can do."

Friend Delila,-

"I live for those who love me,
Whose hearts are kind and true,
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And the good that I can do."

Yours ever,

Mrs. I. G. Kepler

Stanhope, Iowa

July 21st, 1892

Yours ever,
Mrs. I. G. Kepler
Stanhope, Iowa

July 21st 1892.

FIG. 4.83 (CONT.)

Stanhope August the 31. 1884

Sunday Stanhope August the 31, 1884

Dear Cousin

May you be happy
May you be blest
In a neat little cottage
With one you love best

Your cousin
Ida Kepler

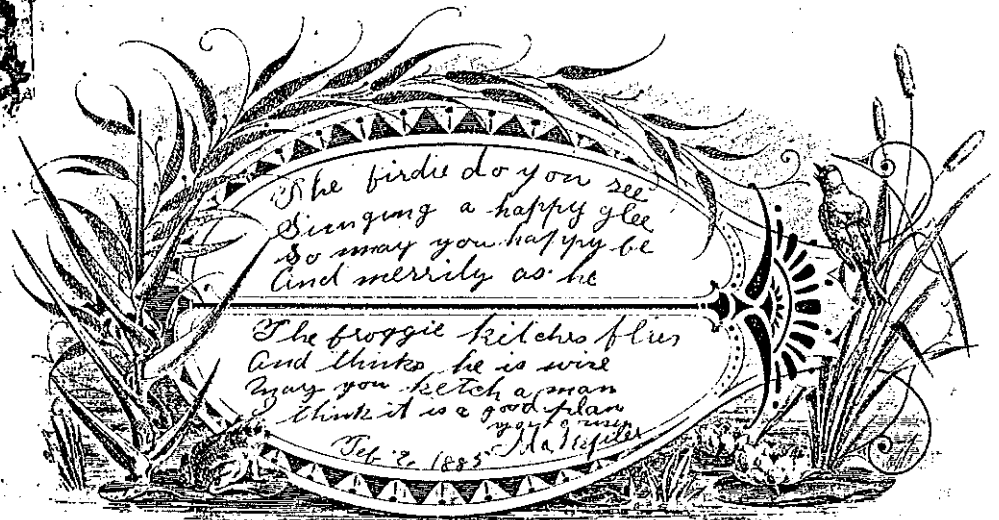
Dear Cousin

May you be happy
May you be blest
In a neat little cottage
With one you love best

Your cousin

Ida Kepler

Sunday



The birdie do you see
Singing a happy glee
So may you happy be
and merrily as he

The froggie ketches flies
And thinks he is wise
May you ketch a man
I think it is a good plan

Your cousin

Ida Kepler

Feb. 2, 1885

FIG. 4.83 (CONT.)

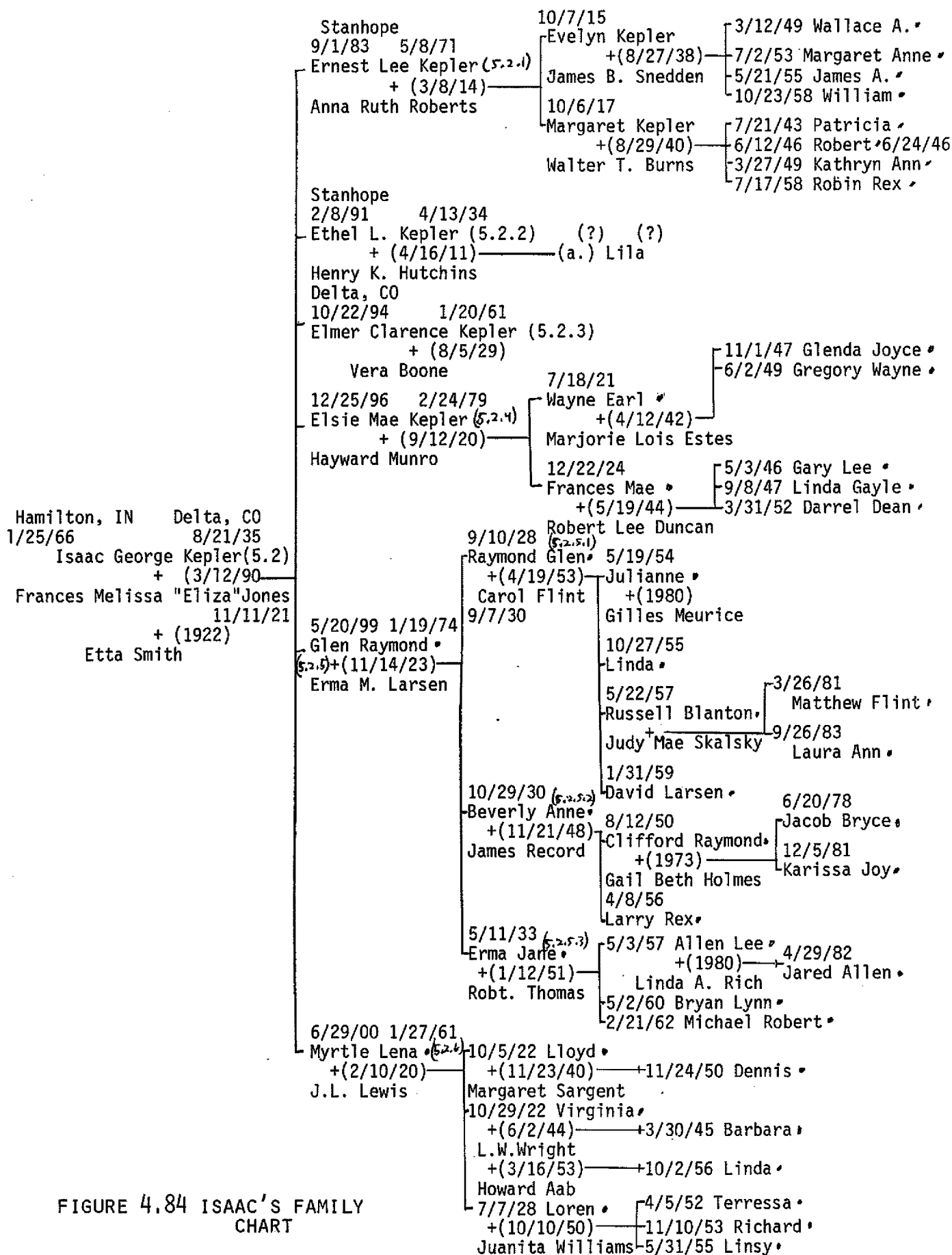


FIGURE 4.84 ISAAC'S FAMILY CHART

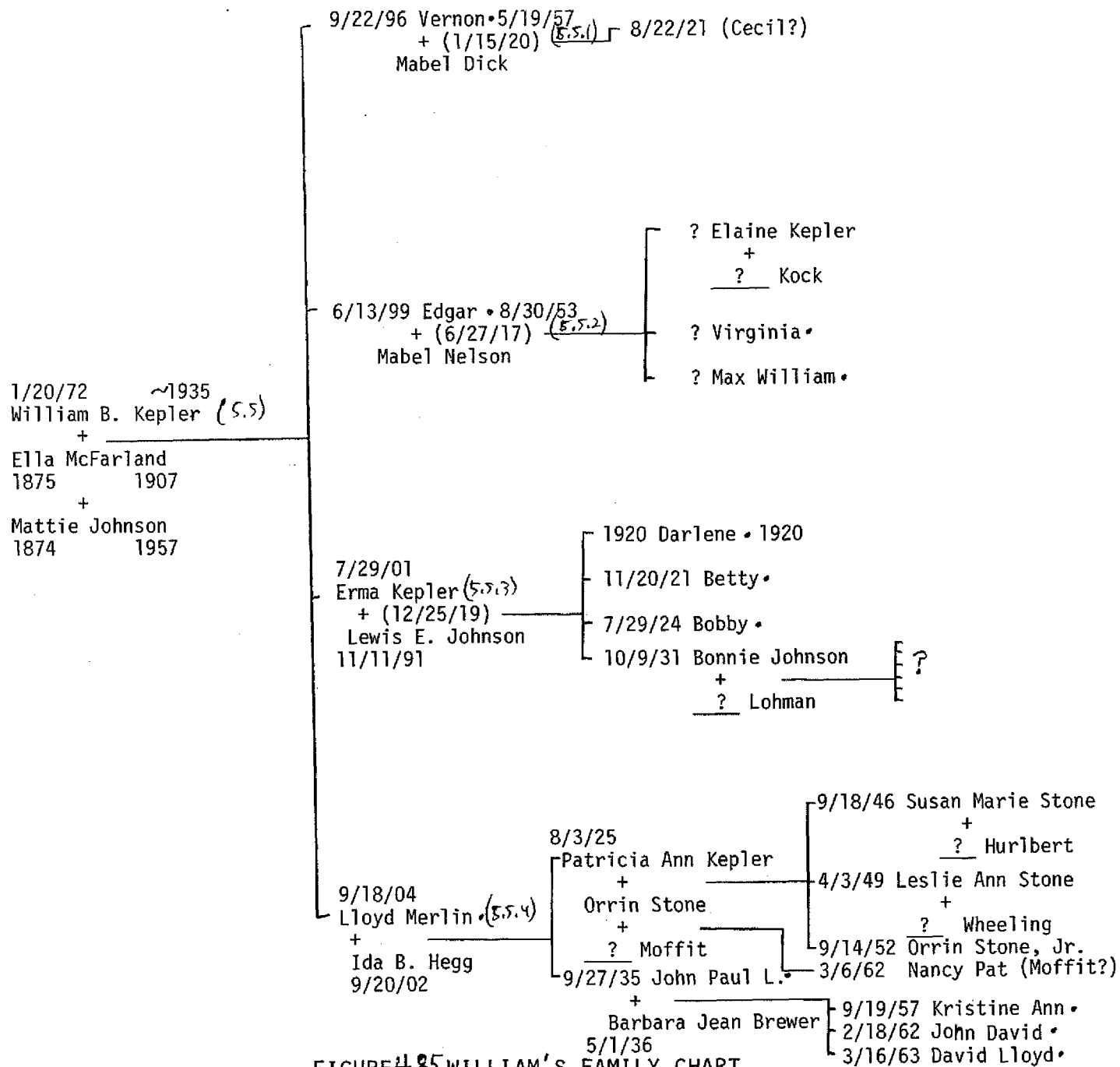


FIGURE 4.85 WILLIAM'S FAMILY CHART

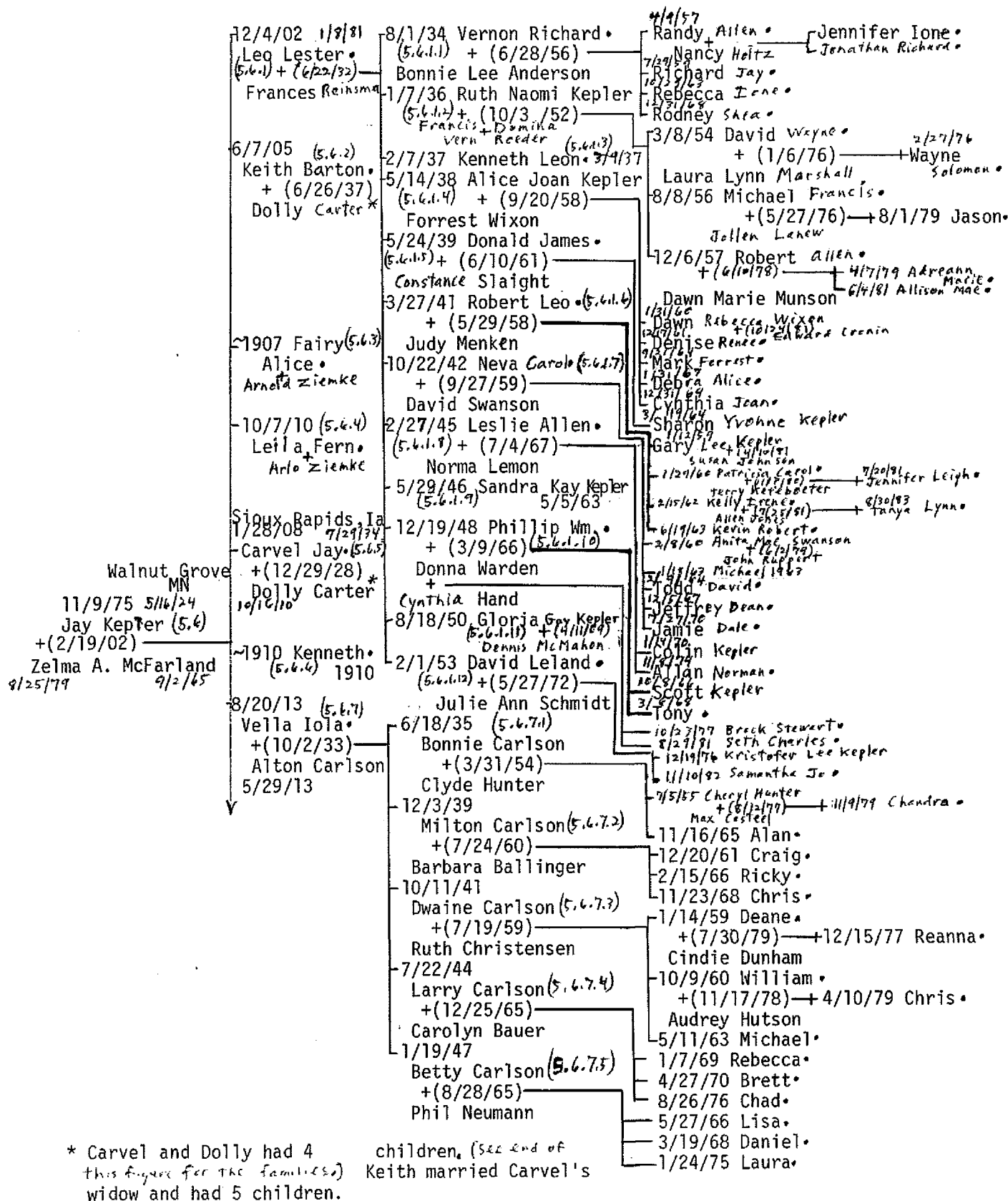


FIGURE 4.86 JAY'S FAMILY CHART

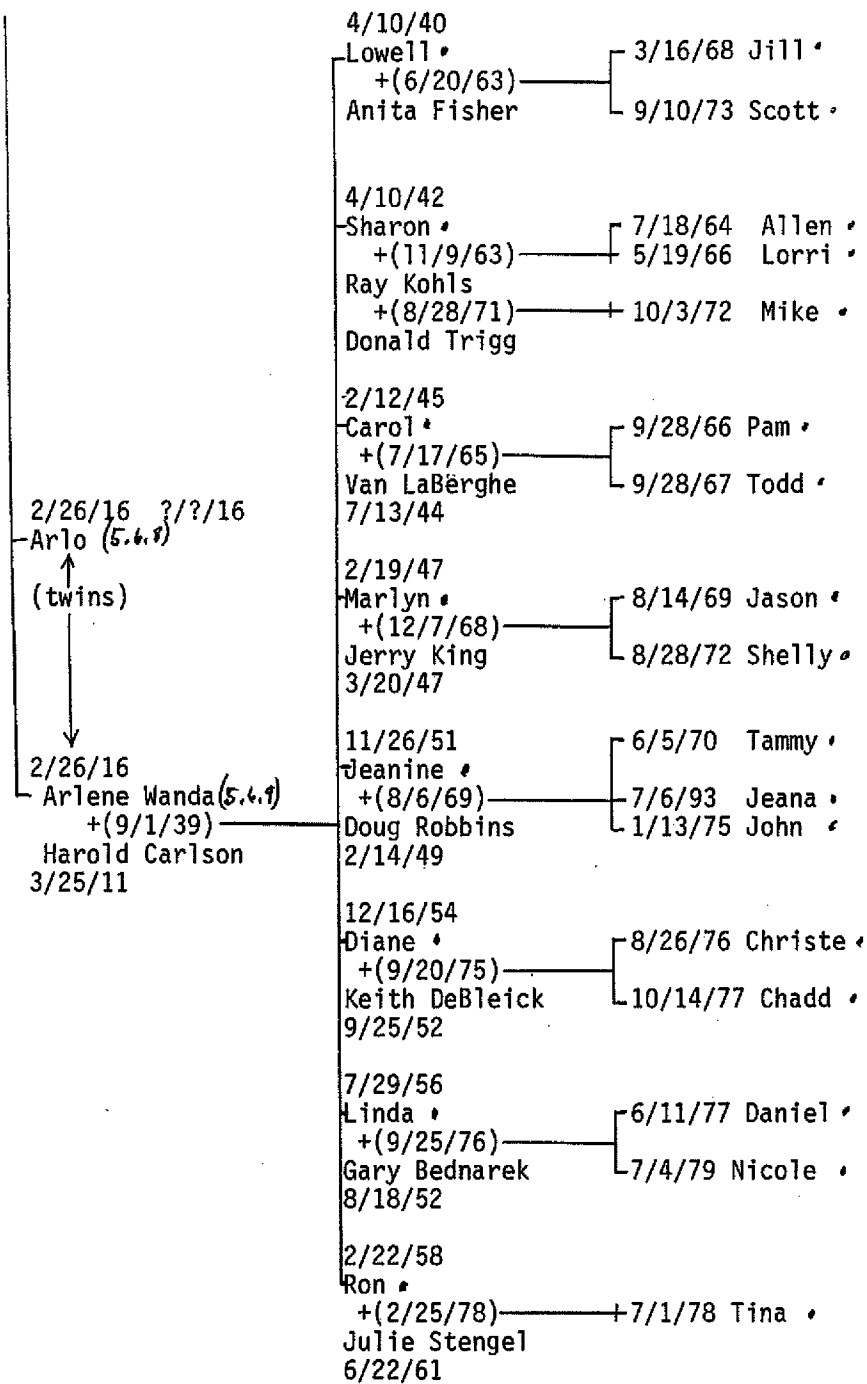


FIGURE 4.86 (CONT.)

Cherry Elaine (5.6.5.1)
 +
 Richard Rasmussen
 - Dallas Jay (5.6.5.2)
 - Gerald (5.6.5.3)
 5/16/32
 Carvel Jay - Audrey Jean (5.6.5.4)
 +
 Dolly Carter - ? Powell

Keith Barton
 +
 Dolly Carter - Lauren (5.6.2.1)
 - Constance Eileen (5.6.2.2)
 twins
 - Curtis Wayne (5.6.2.3)
 - Merle
 - Dennis

FIGURE 4.86 (CONT.)

Mrs. Zelma Kepler dies at hospital, burial in Iowa

Funeral services for Mrs. Zelma Kepler, 86, of Slayton were held Saturday, September 4, at the Assemblies of God church in Slayton, at 1 p.m. with the Rev. James F. Allen officiating.

Mrs. Kepler died Thursday, September 2, at the Murray county Memorial Hospital in Slayton after being a patient there for 6 days. Judy and Debbie Ouverson and Rev. and Mrs. Allen sang duets. Mrs. Allen was the accompanist. Pall bearers were six grandsons and burial was in Fanny Fern cemetery at Sioux Rapids, Iowa.

Born at Stanhope, Iowa, August 25, 1879, she was the daughter of James and Alice McFarland. She grew up at Stanhope and received her education there.

On February 19, 1902, she and Jay Kepler were married at Stanhope and following their marriage they lived there and at Kammer, Iowa, where they operated a cafe. They also lived at Greenville, Iowa, and farmed at Sioux Rapids. In 1918 they moved to Walnut Grove where they farmed. Mr. Kepler died on May 16, 1924, and in 1927 she moved to Slayton which had been her home since.

Besides her husband, 3 sons, 1 brother and 2 sisters preceded her in death.

Surviving are 6 children, Leo, Keith and Mrs. Harold (Arlene) Carlson all of Slayton; Mrs. Arnold (Faity) Ziemke of Balaton; Mrs. Leo (Leila) Ziemke of Tracy; and Mrs. Alton (Vella) Carlson of Worthington. Also surviving are 41 grandchildren, 67 great grandchildren and 1 brother, Rev. Ira McFarland, of Tacoma, Washington.

Arrangements were by the Nelson-Hustad Funeral Home at Slayton.

FIGURE 4.87 ZELMA'S OBITUARY

Obituary

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

LEO LESTER KEPLER

Leo L. Kepler was born December 4, 1902 at Stanhope, IA, to Jay and Zelma McFarland Kepler. His family moved from Iowa to Walnut Grove, MN in 1918 and in 1929 they moved to north of Slayton, MN. On June 22, 1932 he was married to Frances Alice Reinsma at her home farm at Iona, MN. Following their marriage they farmed north of Hadley, MN about one year and did farm work near Chandier, MN. He then worked for Frank Reinsma. In 1934 they moved to Slayton and in 1937 he got a trailer and started his garbage route. They rented the Dushane Farm in Slayton Twp., Murray Co., MN and farmed that for several years while he continued his garbage route. They bought a home in Slayton in 1940 which they returned to live in and have lived there since. Leo worked for the Slayton Street Dept. for 14 years. He retired in 1970 because of poor health. He was a member of the Assembly of God Church in Slayton. Leo has been in failing health for the past ten years and was last hospitalized for eight days in Murray County Memorial Hospital, Slayton, MN. He passed away there on January 8, 1981 at the age of 78 years. He is survived by his wife, Frances, and ten children: Vernon of Fargo, N.D., Ruth, Mrs. Marv Wendorf of Tracy, MN., Alice, Mrs. Forrest Wixon of Pierre, S.D., Donald of Marshall, MN., Robert of Slayton, MN., Neva, Mrs. David Swanson of Slayton, MN., Leslie of Slayton, MN., Phillip of Idaho, Gloria, Mrs. Dennis McMahon of Fargo, N.D., and David of Marshall, MN. He has 28 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Two sisters also survive, Vella, Mrs. Alton Carlson of Louisville, TX and Arlene, Mrs. Harold Carlson of Marshall, MN. He was preceded in death by one infant son, Kenneth, one daughter, Sandra, two grandchildren, his parents, two sisters and two brothers.

FUNERAL SERVICES

Assembly of God Church, Slayton, MN, January 10, 1981 at 10:30 a.m., the Rev. John Homer, Pastor. Mrs. Albert Ausink, Organist. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Paulson, Duet. "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" and "He Was There All The Time." Congregational Hymns "Peace In The Valley" and "At Calvary." Pallbearers are grandsons: Mike Domina, Bob Domina, Mark Wixon, Todd Swanson, Jeff Swanson and Kevin Kepler. Interment in Restland Memory Gardens, Slayton, MN.



LEFT SEATED: ROBERT, GLORIA, FRANCES & LEO, NEVA, ALICE

LEFT STANDING: DONALD, DAVID, LESLIE, RUTH, VERNON, PHILLIP

FIGURE 4.88 LEO'S OBITUARY AND FAMILY

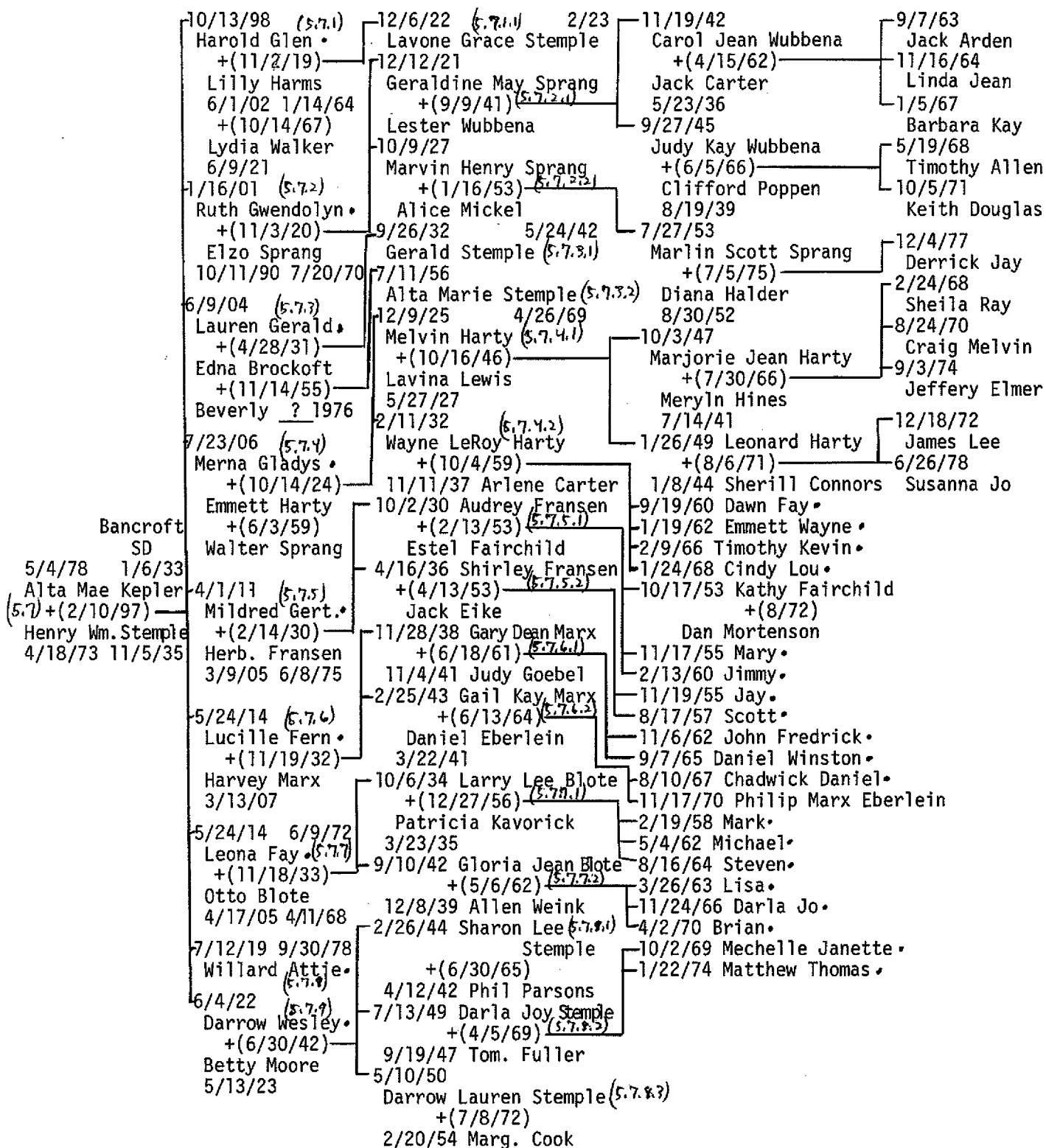


FIGURE 4.89 ALTA MAE'S FAMILY CHART

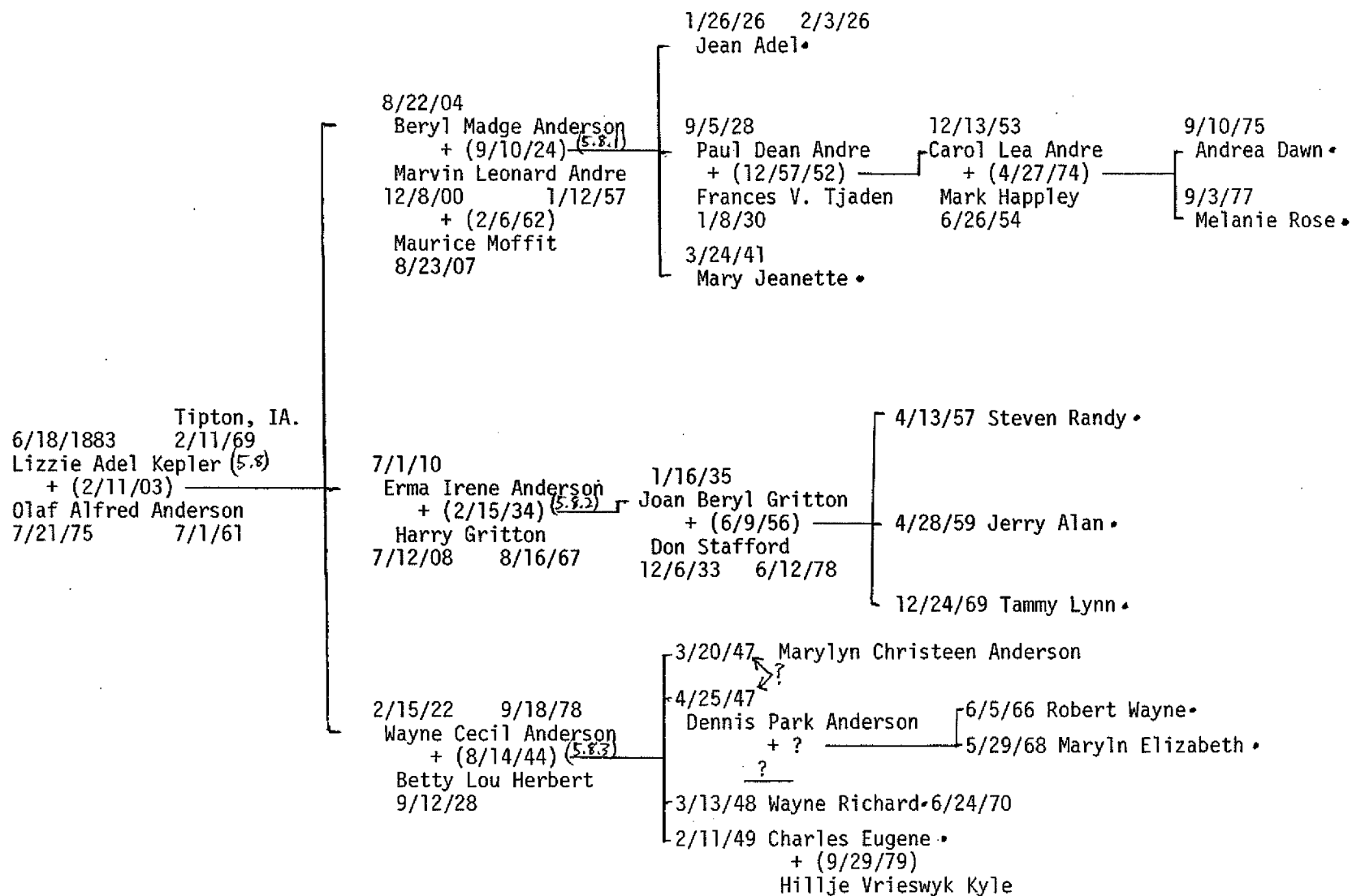


FIGURE 4.90 LIZZIE ADEL'S FAMILY CHART

the family moved north of Slayton, MN where Zelma died in 1965. They are both buried at Fanny Hill cemetery with their infant sons Arlo and Kenneth.

Leo and Frances were married on the 22nd of June, 1932. She is the daughter of Frank and Hattie Reinsma. After the marriage they farmed north of Hadley, MN and did farm work around Chandler, MN. In 1934, Leo purchased a trailer and started his own garbage service business. The next phase was the purchase of two Model T trucks (neither one in running condition) to make one good one out of the two. Leo was a deeply religious person and took his responsibilities seriously at a time in our country's history when things were not very good. He worked his business, farmed, and worked for the city of Slayton for 14 years until he had to retire. He lived out his latter years in considerable pain but always maintained a substantial garden as well as a multitude of flowers and plants. Leo passed away on Jan. 8, 1981 and was buried in Restland Memorial Gardens at Slayton, MN.

Alta Mae and Lizzie Adel (she didn't fall off the highchair) are shown in Figures 4.80 and 4.81. They also seemed to have large families, Figures 4.89 and 4.90, Lizzie dying not long ago in 1969.

Erma Jane Weaver reports the following about Alfred's family:

ALFRED KEPLER, born April 20, 1839, Coventry township, Stark County,* Ohio
died March 14, 1902, Stanhope, Iowa
buried Lawn Hill Cemetery, Stanhope

First marriage to Susan Millinger in Indiana. The date is unknown. She died during the Civil War and there were no children.

Second marriage was to Elizabeth Ann Dirum, December 13, 1864. She was born December 28, 1840 in Wayne County, Ohio. She died March 6, 1927,* Stanhope, Iowa, at the home of her son William Buton Kepler. She is buried at Lawn Hill Cemetery.

Alfred, orphaned at the age of five years, was under the guardianship with his sister Mary and brother William, by court appointment to a Houston Sisler who later became the County Treasurer 1854-58. This was recorded in Docket 1, No.105 -- Bond for \$1500 with Adam Marsh as surety.

Alfred grew up in the area around Akron, Ohio. When he first married, it was to a Susan Millinger. He was drafted into the Civil War, but only for about seven weeks when his wife became ill. He paid \$225 for someone to take his place. (This was common practice in those days.) He took care of Susan until she died.

After his marriage to Elizabeth Dirum, they moved to live near his brother Solomon at Hamilton, Indiana, in Steuben County. In either 1867 or 1868, the same year that Solomon moved to Iowa, Alfred arrived in Stanhope October 12, 1868. He bought a few acres on the east side of the north/south main road in the village that later was named Stanhope. The town eventually grew up around him. He and his wife planted a grove of maple trees north of the home, and later this was donated as a city park to Stanhope. He sold a corner of his land by the main road for \$75 for consideration of a desire to promote public morality and religion, to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was dedicated November 9, 1889 and still stands as of 1979.

Alfred would never look a person in the face, but he was well liked and was good to his brother Solomon's children. He raised turkeys and had a big garden. Before he married Elizabeth, she was said to have gone with a man by the name of Boar, and that she had a child. She was afraid that Alf would not accept the child in his home.

Elizabeth, nicknamed "Lib" or "Libby" had a gallon of pumpkin ready for pies. She left the kitchen and each boy got a spoon. She chased them out, but they got hold of the rafters so she couldn't reach them. After she left, they were back into the pumpkin.

The story of Libby tying red flannel pieces around Adams wife's turkeys was told under Adam. It seems these women were never on good terms. It was said of Libby that she was converted early in life, was generous and kind and unassuming. In their home were held many prayer meetings before the Methodist Church was built.

After Alfred died, she visited her son Isaac who lived in Delta, Colorado. She also visited her daughter Alta Mae Stemple in Bancroft, South Dakota. She died at the home of her son William Buton Kepler of Stanhope.

* To clarify as to where all of George and Catherine's children were born as to township and county name, the southern lower portion of the present Summit County became such, and was formed out of the northern portion of Stark County in 1840. It is said that Susannah and Adam were born in Green township which was in Stark County, but that the parents moved to Coventry township of the present Summit County in the spring of 1835, the year that Solomon was born. So it is debatable as to whether Coventry township was under that name in Stark County, or became such under Summit County. Solomon should be considered as being born in Stark County. Then there was Mary and Alfred who were born before 1840, so they should be considered as born also in Stark County. This leaves only William and the baby, the last child that would be born in Coventry township of Summit County.

*** March 31, according to obituary.*

Another report on the Kepler's by "Mrs. Emma Snyder" (?) is given in Figure 4.91. (Many of the names are inaccurate-- the events may or may not be.)

FIGURE 4.91

KEPLER FAMILY

By Mrs. Emma Snyder

Adam Kepler of Stanhope, Iowa is one of the well known early settlers of Hamilton County. In the spring of 1855, in company with his brother Solomn Kepler he left Summit County, Ohio, traveling by rail to Dubuque, Iowa. Then walked to Fort Dodge, Iowa. Adam bought a section of land in Clear Lake Township, Hamilton County, remaining in this county until the following fall, when he returned to Ohio. His parents George and Catherine (Marsh) Kepler his wife. They died in Portage Township, Summit County, Ohio in 1844 of typhoid fever. In those days they used calomel, blood letting and doctors skill for this disease. The father age 34, and mother age 33 years leaving all their children from age 12 to 2 years of age. The father was born near Canton, Ohio. The mother born near Philadelphia, Penn. The mother of Catherine (Marsh) Kepler sang at the funeral of President George Washington. Her maternal grandfather Bears was a judge of the civil courts. Relatives of both the parents took part in the struggle for Independence. The mother made her trip across the Alleghenies to her new Ohio home in a large Penn. schooner drawn by four large draft horses. She was then three years old. The father's parents John and Mary (Cramer) Kepler had preceded the mother's parents. Adam and Susannah (Bears) Marsh, some 10 years coming about the year 1807. All were natives of Eastern Penn. The father's ancestors were of Swiss, French, and German origin. The mother's was German, English, Scotch and Irish nationality. In religious conviction, all were Protestants, first of the Waldensism and Hugenot type on the father's side. The mother's side Quaker and Covenanter type religious belief. Of their immediate ancestors, some were German reformed, some Quaker, and some Presbyterian, and all fugitives from religious persecution. They hastened to the land of the free where they could worship according to the dictates of his own conscience. From such a combinations the heredity tendency would be to a race that would do its won thinking and acting in regard to matters political, scientific, philosophical and religious, resulting in a vigorous, self-respecting radicalism joined with a conservatism, which ever turns from titles, and authority to truth and right. With such an ancestry their children as pure Americans are naturally in the fore front of American feeling, thought and action. None of the children have ever brought even upon the honored name of father and mother, whose lives as devoted, pious, consecrated, Christians enjoying a present joyous full salvation, remain vividly in the memory of those that knew them, and who speak of them as too good for earth, and for the good of the earth to brief their career. Oft in years of their orphanage have these sons and daughters held and expressed

the conviction that the prayers of their said parents have brought the protecting shield of their Heavenly Father twixt them and harm. With the eternal spirit to guide, comfort and strengthn them. Their children were six in numbers. Four sons and two daughters. Adam the eldest was married in 1858 to Elizabeth Myers. April of the same year they came to Hamilton County and settled on the land he previously entered. The home was on the east bank of the Boone river where they lived until they moved to the village of Stanhope, Iowa. They had eleven children. Five of whom are living: William Lincoln, George Franklin, Otis Wealey, Cora Jane, and Emma May. Mr. Kepler had taken an active part in all public enterprises, especially in the cause of education. He taught school in the winter several years. The summer being devoted to caring for the farm. He organized the first Sunday School in Hamilton County, and has since worked in the school later as superintendent or teacher. He also has served as secretary of the County Sunday School Association. He has held various positions as official in the township, such as clerk assessor and justice of the peace. Three of the brothers were residents of Hamilton County and among its most respected citizens. In 1858, Solomon bought land four miles south of Webster City, it was some 80 rods west of the banks of the Boone river where with his wife Philene Dennison of New Portage, Ohio they lived and reared seven children. One son and six daughters: Mary, Cordelia, Delila, Jane Lopedla, Rhoda Ann, Rosa Belle, Susan Maude and Jacob William. In 1869, brother Alfred Kepler came to Hamilton County from Steuben County, Indiana, where he married Mrs. Elizabeth Durham and settled on the farm in Stanhope. His residence was on east side of the street, opposite of his brother Adam. His children were: Isaac G., Ida E., Edward E., William B., Jau, Alta M., Lizzie A., Adam and Alfred were among founders of Stanhope and gave substantial aid to its growth. The youngest brother Rev. William Kepler Ph.D., for three years a soldier of the Army of the Potomac, ex-professor, ex-president of Balolivian University, and secretary of the North Ohio Annual Conference of Methodist Church. The sisters Susan Snyder, and Mrs. Mary Sows are wives of the much esteemed and well to do farmers, living near Akron, Ohio. All the brothers were members of Methodist church, actively engaged as their circumstances would permit, in the promotion of the intellectual, moral and spiritual growth of those around them.

September 30, 1934

WILLIAM

William was the most educated and worldly of the Kepler children. He entered Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) around 1859 but when the Civil War broke out he volunteered for the Fourth Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry in 1861 (Figure 4.92) and fought in the Seven Day's Battle, receiving a shoulder wound in the process (Figure 4.93). He was mustered out in 1864, married Hattie Swaisgood (Figure 4.94), and enrolled in the Literary College at the University of Michigan. In October of 1865 Hattie died, possibly during childbirth, and, after completing the school year and taking a trip to Iowa (according to a pension letter from Henry Sour), William returned to OWU in 1866 (Figure 4.95).

There he married Anne Ober (Figure 4.96) in 1867 and completed his studies, graduating in 1868. In August of that year, a son, Charles Ober, was born to William and Anne (see Figures 4.97, 98, and 107). He also entered the North Ohio Conference of the Methodist Church that year and, soon after, began graduate studies in geology at Northwestern University. Sadly, in 1870 Anne died (childbirth?). What happened to the baby for the next few years is not clear because William did complete his graduate studies, earning the PhD in 1873. The baby may have been raised during this period, if William was a full time student, by the Ober family because just prior to graduation, William married Anne's sister Jennie (Figure 4.99).

For the next two years they lived an "itinerant minister's" life (see Figure 4.100) while William was minister of the Oberlin Methodist Episcopal Church. From 1880 to 1887 William was Professor of Natural Science at Baldwin University in Berea, Ohio, also serving as the Acting President from 1885-86 (see Figure 4.101). In 1884 he visited the relatives in Iowa (see autograph in Figure 4.93 and comments in Chapter 3) and again, apparently, in 1866. In Delila's autograph book there is an inscription concerning William, naming his wife and three children at that time (Figure 4.102). Following William's appointment at the University he apparently returned to the ministry in the town of Oberlin until his death in 1909, giving lectures on occasion (Figures 4.93 and 4.103).

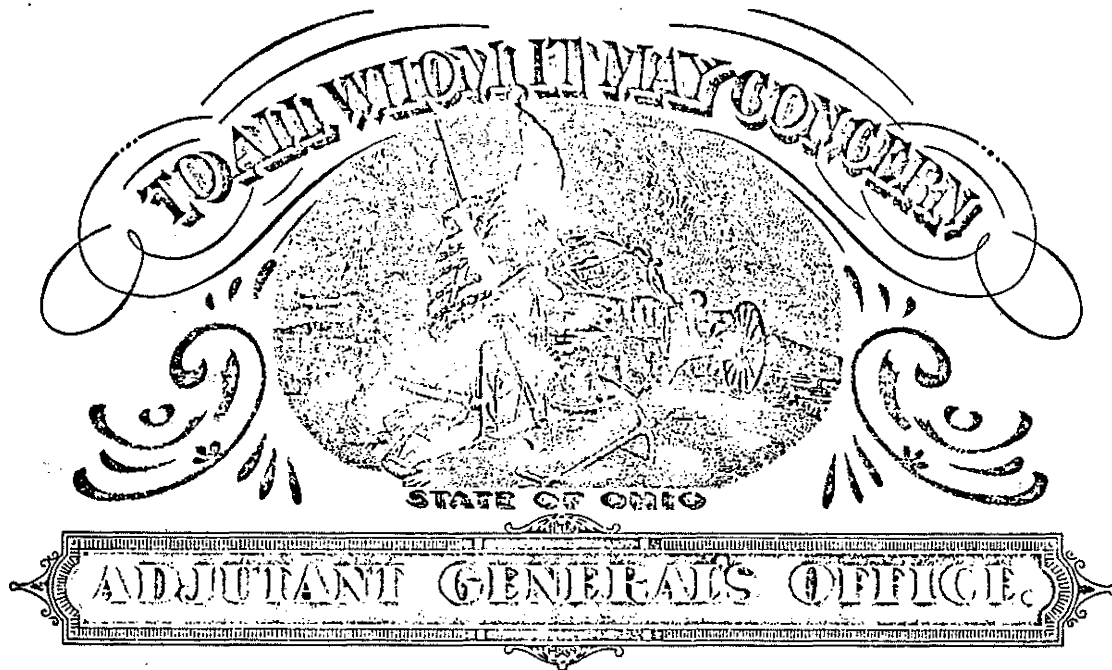
William's grandson Russell (6.5.2) has done a considerable amount of investigation (see letter, Figure 4.104) and offered the pictures in Figures 4.105 and 4.106, as well as numerous details and pictures about not just William, but also Susannah (Figures 4.2, 5, 7, 8, and 10) and Mary (Figures 4.74 and 4.76). (Also, see William's picture in the frontispiece.) Mary W. never married and Grace was a Downs child (also never married).

An interesting point of conjecture concerns William's middle name. The M. we are using here is based on Coyle's "Ohio Authors ..." in Figure 4.107 and might logically stand for Marsh (as Adam's M. does). But others maintain that Solomon's son Jacob William was named after William and George R. Snyder (1.6.1) once wrote a letter to Lillian Wolff referring to him as WILLIAM JACOB KEPLER (all in caps).

* * * * *

(Based on the 1958 clipping in Figure 4.93, I tried to call Mr. Harold Kepler in Wellington but no number was listed for him. While I had the information operator at my disposal, I asked if there were any other Keplers listed in Wellington (after all, who knows?). There were two. The first was nice and happy to talk with me but was not related, near as we could tell. At the second I spoke to a teenager who seemed amazed her dad would get a call in the evening. When Mr. Russell Kepler came to the phone and I told him who I was and what I was doing, I suddenly had the feeling I represented a ghost coming out of an abyss 100 years old. It sounded like he sat down in a chair. Did we talk!! I asked him questions that went

77



Columbus, O., February 25, 1971

Know Ye That the records of this office show that

William Kepler

was enrolled *as a* Private *in Company* "C"
4th. Regiment, Ohio Vol. Infantry *on the* 3rd. *day of* June,
1861 *at* _____ *by* _____

and was mustered into the United States service as such for the period of
3 years *on the* - *day of* - *at*
- *by* -

U. S. A. Mustering Officer, and that he was nineteen years of age at the
time of his enrollment in the Civil War. Mustered out with Company
June 21, 1864.

Wesley L. Pimental

Adjutant General of Ohio

FIGURE 4.92 WILLIAM'S SERVICE RECORD

OHIO NEWS BUREAU CO.
Cleveland 15, Ohio
First Press Clipping Bureau in Ohio
LORAIN JOURNAL

JUL 7 1958

Ninety-six years ago today, Dr. William Kepler, grandfather of Harold Kepler of RD 4, Wellington, was encamped near Harrison's Landing on the James River in Virginia.

He was nursing a wound in his left shoulder, inflicted by the Confederates on July 3, 1862, in fighting that followed the Seven Days' Battle.

In that battle, troops of Gen. Robert E. Lee foiled Gen. George B. McClellan's efforts to capture Richmond by moving up the Yorktown peninsula.

Dr. Kepler, a geologist, recovered from his wound and was acting president of Baldwin University. ~~Now Baldwin-Wallace~~ when he completed ~~the~~ the history of his regiment, the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

From "The Bulletin" May 1, 1896 (Filed) Baldwin University

On Wednesday evening, April 29, Rev. Wm. Kepler, Ph.D., who some years ago was Professor of Natural Science in Baldwin University, of which institution he was also acting president one year, delivered his lecture on "The Geological Record and Evidences of Noah's Flood." The lecture was given in the College Chapel and was exceedingly interesting, harmonizing the Bible account with the results of scientific investigation.

*Life's highest possible attainment:
Is to be, all the Lord would have us be;
To do, all He would have us do,
And to suffer, all He would have us suffer,
At such time and place as He sees fit.*

Wm Kepler

August 22nd 1884

Life's highest possible attainment;
Is to be, all the Lord would have us be;
To do, all He would have us do,
And to suffer, all He would have us suffer,
At such time and place as He sees fit.

August 22nd 1884 Wm Kepler

FIGURE 4.93 NEWS REPORTS AND AUTOGRAPHS ABOUT WILLIAM



FIGURE 4.94 HARRIET SWAISGOOD AND
WILLIAM (c. 1865)



FIGURE 4.96 CHRISTINA ANN OBER (c. 1867)
(TINTYPE; BLUE EYES?)



May 18, 1981

Mr. Jack Meredith
1062 Tahoe Terrace
Cincinnati, Ohio 45238

Dear Sir:

The "Classical Course" at Ohio Wesleyan was a course heavy in the Humanities with just a modicum of science related materials. In fact the catalog infers that just enough science was required for a well-educated person. The course was in no way connected with church requirements. The only documentation that you needed then was a clear call from God to carry out His ministry.

In going through some old Library catalogs I have discovered that William Kepler had a wide-ranging mind that was apparently trying to reconcile the role of pure science with man's relationship to God and His message. Some of the sciences he investigated were Chemistry, Astronomy, Geology, Telegraphy and Mesmerism. He was apparently able to read in German, Arabic, and Sanskrit besides Greek and English. We have found notations of about 75 books he had given to the college library.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "John H. Reed".

John H. Reed
Assoc. Professor

Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio 43015 Tel. (614) 369-4431

FIGURE 4.95

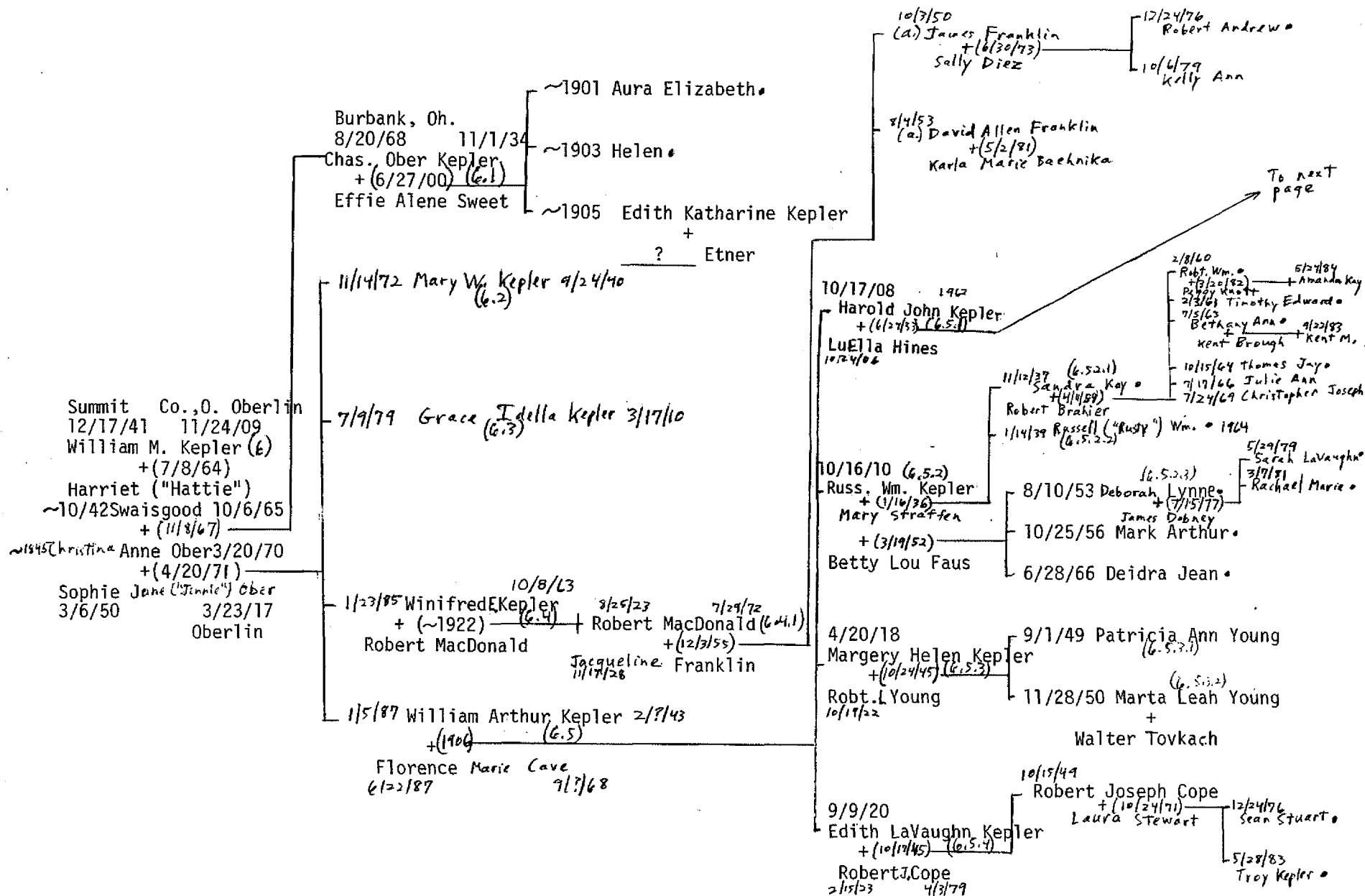


FIGURE 4, 17 WILLIAM'S FAMILY CHART

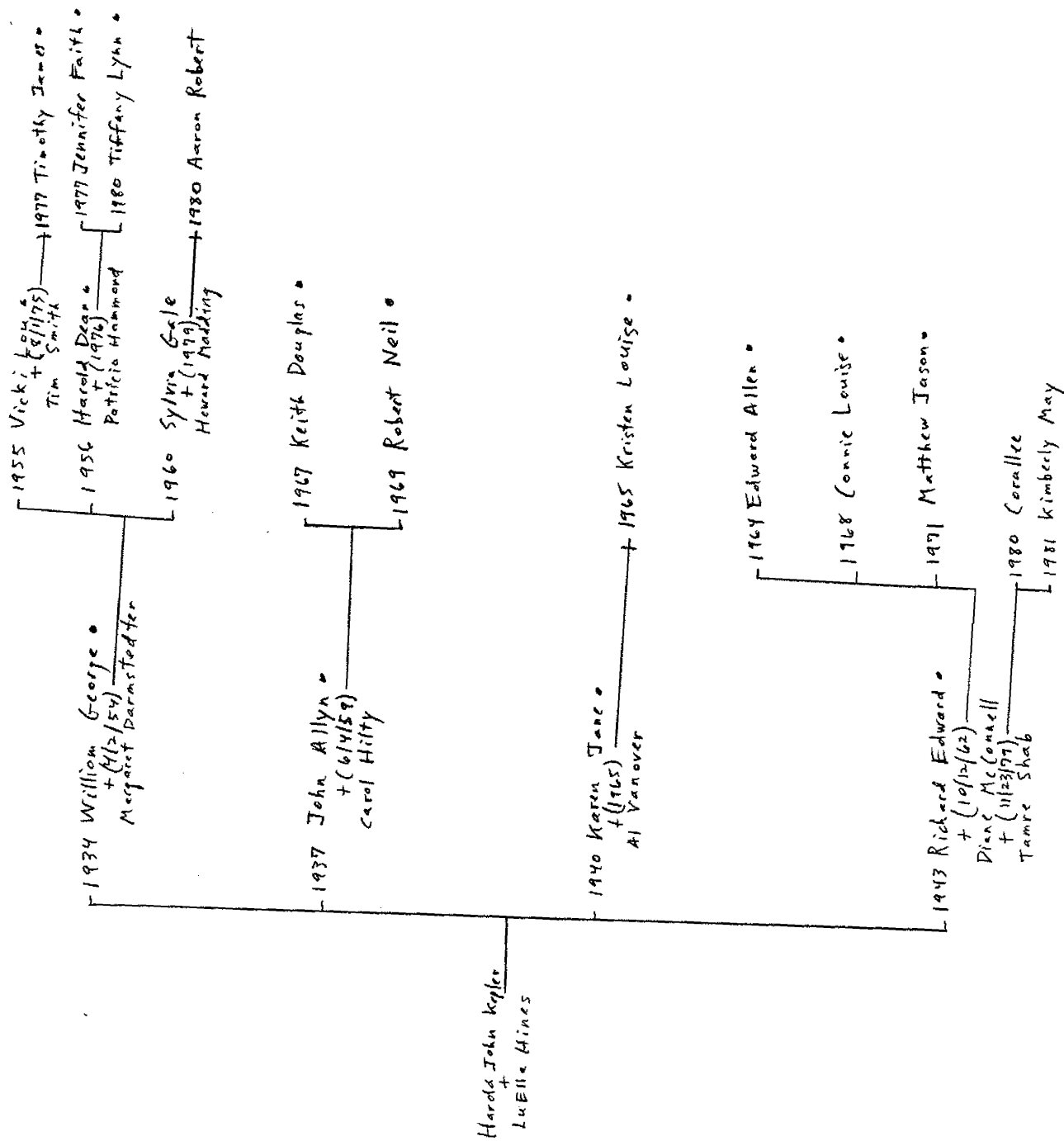




FIGURE 4.98 CHARLES OBER FAMILY

EFFIE WITH BABY EDITH, AURA ELIZABETH,
CHARLES, HELEN (C. 1906)



SOPHIA JANE OVER/OBER ("JENNIE")
(c. 1871)



WILLIAM AND JENNIE (c. 1906)

FIGURE 4.99

Tribune

CH 30, 1917.

\$1.50 Per Year, in Advance

WIFE OF FORMER MINISTER DIED

**Mrs. S. Jennie Kepler Passed Away
at Her Home Early Friday
Morning**

**Had Made a Host of Friends During
Her Residence Here—Funeral
Services Held Monday**

Mrs. S. Jennie Kepler passed away at her home, 108 North Pleasant street, at 1:30 o'clock Friday morning, March 23, aged 67 years and 17 days. Mrs. Kepler had been sick for some time but she was startled by the blowing of the fire whistle Friday morning and this undoubtedly hastened her end.

She was the youngest daughter of Benjamin D. and Elizabeth Obers and was born in Red Haw, O., March 6, 1850. At an early age, with her parents, she moved to Burbank, O., where her early years were spent. She received her education in the public schools of that town, later attending private schools.

She was converted at an early age and joined the Evangelical church, of which she remained a member until her marriage with the late Dr. Wm. Kepler, on April 20, 1873, at Sayville, O., when she entered on the arduous duties of an itinerant minister's wife of the Methodist Episcopal church. Two years were spent in serving the church here in Oberlin, during some of its struggling, perplexing days.

In the capacity of a pastor's wife she was a success and always became endeared to the people wherever she lived. Her calm, clear-headed thinking, her poise under all conditions made her an invaluable assistant to her husband.

As a professor's wife, while Dr. Kepler was connected with Baldwin university, she was none the less successful, winning the confidence and love of many of the students.

In her own home, Mrs. Kepler was best known and treasured, "the dearest of mothers," and as her husband so often expressed it, "my faithful standby."

Her children always found her a wise and patient counsellor, always guiding them sweetly and without censor, so that to please "mamma" very early became an ideal.

Of an inventive turn of mind, she was ingenious in her household plans and undaunted, quietly faced the most difficult problems.

In her last sickness she showed the same indomitable courage, and with marvelous patience faced the recurring attacks of her disease with never a murmur. She was never heard to question "why" she should suffer. Those who came to cheer her, went away cheered, soothed and calmed, feeling better for the time spent with her, more like living their own lives as bravely and as well. She always gave forth a feeling of cheer and security received from her perfect faith and trust in her Heavenly Father. As one friend has said, "Her eyes beamed with something, only she knew."

Seven years ago, in November, her husband, Dr. Wm. Kepler, preceded her to the better land. Four months later a daughter, Grace J., followed. Since then she and her two remaining daughters, Mary and Winifred, have been making their home together. She also leaves one son, Arthur, of North East, Pa.; a stepson, Dr. Charles O., of Boston, Mass., and five grandchildren (she being the last of her own family), to cherish a very dear and sacred memory.

Funeral services were held from the home on North Pleasant street Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, conducted by her former pastor, Rev. W. S. Chapman of Norwalk, and assisted by Rev. Vernon W. Wagar of the First M. E. church of Lorain, and Dr. E. E. Whittaker of the First M. E. church of this place. The remains were laid at rest beside the grave of her husband in Westwood cemetery.

**We have a good
Work Shoe
for men
which we are**

**selling for
\$2.50**

**BEHR'S
BOOT SHOP**

15 N. Main Street

Apollo Theatre Feature Program

OPEN AFTERNOON and EVENING

Fri., March 30—Mrs. Vernon Castle
in

PATRIA

Sat., March 31—Lillian Gish in
Daphne and the Pirate

Mon., April 2—June Caprice in
Caprice of the Mountains

Tues., April 3—Louise Lovely in
The Honor of Mary Blake

Wed., April 4—Kathryn Kalraed in
**The Girl With the
Green Eyes**

Thurs., April 5—Lillian Gish in
Diana of the Follies
Benefit Oberlin Boys' Band

Coming—Douglas Fairbanks in
"MANHATTAN MADNESS"

Mary Pickford in
"THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL"

FIGURE 4.100 JENNIE KEPLER'S OBITUARYS 1917

MRS. S. JENNIE KEPLER.

Mrs. S. Jennie Kepler passed from earth at Oberlin, Ohio, on March 23, 1917, aged 67 years and 17 days. She was the youngest daughter of Benjamin D. and Elizabeth Obers, and was born at Red Haw, Ohio, from which place she moved with her parents to Burbank, where her early years were spent. Here she was educated at the public schools, later attending private schools. At an early age she was converted and joined the Evangelical Church, of which she remained a member until her marriage to the late Dr. William Kepler on April 20, 1872, at Seville, O. She entered so earnestly and successfully upon the arduous duties of an itinerant minister's wife that she endeared herself to the people wherever she lived. Her calm, clear thinking, and her poise under all conditions made her an invaluable assistant to her husband who lovingly acknowledged her gifts.



Mrs. S. Jennie Kepler.

As a professor's wife, when Dr. Kepler was at Baldwin University, she was none the less successful, winning the confidence and love of the students. In her home, where she was best known and treasured, her children always found her a wise and patient counsellor, guiding them sweetly and without censure. In her last sickness she showed indomitable courage, and with marvelous patience faced the recurring attacks of her disease with never a murmur. She was never heard to question why she should suffer. Those who came to cheer her went away cheered and calmed, feeling better for the time spent with her and more like living their own lives as bravely and well as she. She gave forth a feeling of peace and security received from her perfect faith and trust in her heavenly Father. As one friend said, "Her eyes beamed with some thing that only she knew." Seven years ago her husband preceded her to the better land. Four months later a daughter, Grace L., followed. Since then she and her two remaining daughters, Mary and Winifred, have made their home together. She also leaves one son, Arthur, of North East, Pa., a step-son, Charles O., of Boston, and five grandchildren to cherish a very dear and sacred memory. Funeral services were held at her home on March 26, conducted by her former pastor, Rev. W. S. Chapman of Norwalk, assisted by Rev. V. W. Wagar of Lorain and Rev. E. E. Whittaker of Oberlin. She was laid by the side of her husband in Westwood cemetery, Oberlin.

W. S. Chapman.

FIGURE 4.100 (CONT.)

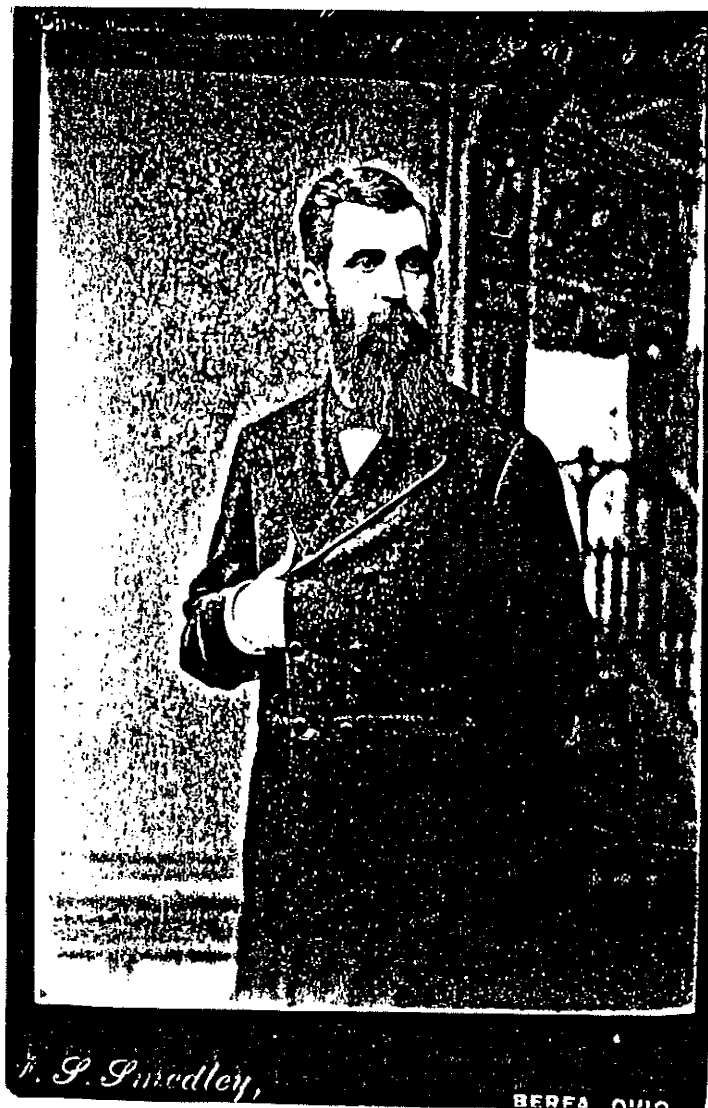
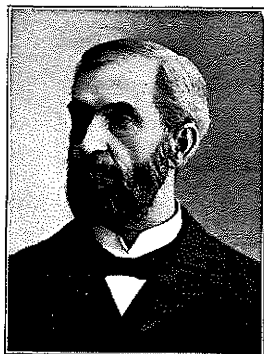


FIGURE 4.101 WILLIAM'S PICTURE AT BALDWIN UNIVERSITY
(COURTESY OF BALDWIN-WALLACE COLLEGE)



December 17th 1884, "Uncle Wills" 43^d birthday anniversary.

Wm Kepler Ph.D.
S. Jennie Kepler

Many a Merry Christmas
Baldwin University
Berea, O. Dec. 17 1884

Charles O. Kepler Grace Idella Kepler
Mary Kepler

December 17th 1884, "Uncle Wills" 43d birthday anniversary.

FIGURE 4.102 WILLIAM'S BIRTHDAY INSCRIPTION IN DELILA'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

OBERLIN TRIBUNE - Dec. 3, 1909

AS EDUCATOR AND PREACHER

Dr. William Kepler's Life Devoted to the Enlightenment of Others

Was a Noted Scientist in Geology - Held Chair at Baldwin University Six Years.

The funeral services of Rev. William Kepler were held last Saturday afternoon at the First Methodist church of which he had been a former pastor. Dr. Charles Gallimore of the Franklin Avenue M.E. church of Cleveland, and an intimate friend of Dr. Kepler, gave the address and Dr. Grose of Elyria the obituary and some appreciative remarks. His soldier life was touched upon by Mr. Nickerson who was a member of the same brigade. Dr. Grose said in part:

"Another name, highly honored and greatly beloved, has been taken from our Conference Roll and entered upon the roll of the Honored Dead. This transfer of names from the list military to the list triumphant has been exceedingly frequent in the last few months and we ministers of the North Ohio Conference have a keen and growing sense of loneliness. But He who is the Captain of our salvation, and who led our Fathers on to glorious and repeated victory is still our leader, and we will go on stimulated by the precious memories of these godly men who have laid such ample and permanent foundations, upon which we are today building.

"William Kepler was born in Barberton, O., December 17, 1842. When three years of age he was bereaved of both father and mother. Just before the mother died it is said that she requested the children to be brought to her, and as they came one by one she directed what should be done in the case of each of them. When little three year old William was brought to her she said, "I have no plan for him. I'll put him in the hands of the Lord. He will take care of William." A brief view of his life will prove that God did not betray her sublime trust.

"At a very early age he gave evidence of having an unusually bright mind. He thirsted for knowledge of every kind, and early formed a friendship for books which was never broken but steadily grew through the years. The village in which he spent his boyhood owned a first class library for those days, but no one was so familiar with its volumes nor drew so much inspiration from them as did he.

"To analyze a life so many sided and complex as his is a task beyond the limits of this paper. Every one who knew Dr. Kepler admired his sincerity. He had all the tenderness of real strength and all the strength of real tenderness. He could not dissemble. He had no hiding place even for his own faults. The unreal and untrue were never very comfortable in his presence. He would burn and flash against all pretense and hypocrisy with an energy that was startling. All who knew him felt perfectly safe with him for he was a true Israelite and with out guile. To the worth of sincerity he added the spirit of self-sacrifice. All over this conference in all the charges he served there are hundreds that rise up to call him blessed not only for the full gospel he preached, but for the fuller gospel which he lived.

"Many through his preaching accepted Christ and joined the Church and several of these have become ministers of the Word. We shall miss him but we have not lost him; we shall meet him in the morning of the resurrection where we shall enjoy unbroken fellowship with him and our Christ.

"Dr. Kepler's life while a student was an interesting one, coming as it did in the early 60's. When the civil war broke out it found him a student in Ohio Wesleyan University, keenly pursuing the object of his passion, an education. But when he heard the call of his country he did not hesitate, but at once enlisted in the first regiment from Delaware, the 4th Ohio Volunteers.

"For three years and three months he was in active service. He took part in sixty-three engagements and in many of them displayed exceptional heroism. At the battle of Fredericksburg he captured a confederate flag which he kept as a precious trophy the remainder of his life. In a skirmish at Harrison's Landing he was severely wounded and left upon the field for dead. He lay there forty-eight hours before any aid came, and most of that time he was unconscious. The injuries he received during this engagement he carried all thru life and they finally culminated in his death.

"He was special clerk under General Carroll and was offered the position of head clerkship under Grant with offices in New York, but he declined it to enter the ministry. In his soldier days he did not forget he was a soldier of the Great King. Loyal to the union to the last drop of blood in his veins, he was none the less loyal to the kingdom of God. All thru the war he carried a new testament in French, and eloquent testimony both to his piety and scholarship.

"At the close of the war he entered the University of Michigan for some special studies, then returned to Delaware where he was graduated in the classical course in 1868, which was known as the "war class". But his student life did not close with his college days. That which he received in classic halls simply whetted his appetite and stimulated him to greater industry and independent research. In 1873 he received upon examination the degree of Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

"For six years he was professor of Natural science at Baldwin University in Berea and served as acting president of the institution during one year.

"In the field of geology he was a specialist of national note. Several of his geological specimens are to be seen in the American Museum of Geology in the city of New York. He also has one specimen in the University of Oxford and two in the British Museum.

"Several years were devoted to the writing of a book on "The Flood." The subject was treated from a geological as well as a theological standpoint, it was ready to go to press with the exception of a few chapters which he had decided to rewrite.

"He entered the North Ohio Conference of the Methodist church in 1868. He was elected secretary of the conference in 1885 and served in that capacity for seventeen years. He could have had it longer but he insisted upon being relieved. The measure of his service and the

sacrifice for the Conference while in this office will never be fully known to the brethren except by those few who have shared in the office. He was a model secretary. His records were always accurate and clear. He was painstaking. He loved his work too well to do it poorly. His conference honored him and themselves by sending him to the general conference in 1896 and 1900 at both these conferences he was official stenographer and was greatly beloved for his works sake.

Dr. Kepler leaves a widow, two sons, Dr. Charles of Boston, Mass., and Arthur of Wellington, and three daughters, residing with their mother in Oberlin to mourn the loss of a noble father.

At the close of the service the remains were laid to rest in Westwood Cemetery.

REV. WILLIAM KEPLER, Ph. D.

William Kepler was born in Barberton, Ohio, December 17, 1842. When three years of age he was bereaved of both father and mother. Just before the mother died it is said that she requested the children to be brought to her, and as they came one by one she directed what should be done in the case of each. When little three-year-old William was brought to her, she said, "I have no plans for him. I'll put him in the hands of the Lord. He will take care of William." And she kissed him good-bye, commending him to God. A brief review of his life will amply prove that God did not betray her sublime trust. After the death of his mother he was taken to the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Marsh, a saintly couple, with whom he spent his boyhood days.

Converted when seven years of age, he early laid a splendid foundation for Christian life and character. He knew in whom he had believed. While he reveled in the deep things of God, yet his expression of personal faith was as direct as a sunbeam and as simple as that of a child.

At a very early age he gave evidence of having an unusually bright mind. He thirsted for knowledge of every kind, and early formed a friendship for books, which was never broken, but steadily grew through the years. The village in which he spent his boyhood owned a first-class library for those days, but no one was so familiar with its volumes nor drew so much inspiration from them as did he.

He was thrice married. First to Miss Hattie Swaisgood. Their union had been consummated but a few months when she was called away. Later he was married to Miss Anna Obers. One son was born to this union, Charles O., who is a surgeon in the city of Boston. On April 20, 1873, he was married to Miss Jennie Obers. To this marriage there are four children, three daughters, Mary, Grace and Winifred, and one son, Arthur. All of whom with the sorrowing widow survive to mourn the loss of a true and faithful husband and a devoted and affectionate father.

When the great Civil War came it found him a student in the Wesleyan University keenly pursuing the object of his passion—education. Yet, when he heard the call of his country, he did not hesitate but at once enlisted in the first regiment from Delaware of the Ohio Volunteers. For three years and three months he was in the service of his country as a soldier. He took part in sixty-three campaigns, and in many of them displayed exceptional heroism. At the battle of Fredericksburg he captured a Confederate flag, which he kept as a precious trophy the remainder of his life. At the battle of Harpers Landing he was severely wounded and left upon the field for dead. Injuries received in this engagement he carried all through life, and finally culminated in his death. He was special clerk under General Grant, and was offered the position of head clerkship under General Grant with office in New York City, but he declined it to enter the ministry.

At the close of the war he entered the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor for some special studies, then returned to Delaware, where he graduated in the classical course in 1868 in the class known as the "War Class." His student life did not terminate with his college days. That which he received in classic halls simply whetted his appetite, stimulated him to greater industry and independent research. In

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North Ohio Conference

1873 he received upon examination the degree of Ph. D. from the Northwestern University. In the field of geology he was a specialist of national reputation. Several of his geological specimens are to be found in the American Museum of Geology in the city of New York. He also has one specimen in the University of Oxford, England, and two in the British Museum. Several years were devoted to the writing of a book on "The Flood." The subject was treated from a geological and theological point of view. It was ready to go to press excepting a few chapters which he decided to rewrite. Some years ago he published a booklet on "The Resurrection."

The Conference Minutes show that he entered the North Ohio Conference in 1868. His appointments were Millersburg, Democracy, public, Milan, Oberlin, Perkins. Five years Professor of Natural Science in Baldwin University and one year acting President. After which he returned to the pastorate and served Grace Church, Delaware; Creston, New London, Clyde, Huntington, Pittsfield, and Grafton. At the Conference of 1908 he was granted a Superannuate Relation at his own request. He then moved to Oberlin, where he spent the remainder of his days. For several years he served the Conference as Statistical Secretary. In 1885 he was elected Secretary, and for seventeen years he held this office. He was a model Secretary; his records were always accurate and clear. He loved his work too well to do it poorly. His Conference honored him and themselves by sending him to General Conference in 1896 and 1900. At both these Conferences he was appointed official stenographer.

To analyze a life so many sided and complex as his is a task beyond the limits of this paper. Every one who knew Dr. Kepler admired his sincerity. He had all the tenderness of real strength, and all the strength of real tenderness. He could not dissemble. He had no hiding place even for his own faults. The unreal and untrue were never comfortable in his presence. He would burn and flash against all pretense and hypocrisy with an energy that was startling. All who knew him felt perfectly safe with him, for he was a true Israelite and without guile. To the worth of sincerity he added the spirit of self-sacrifice. All over the Conference in all the charges he served, there are hundreds that rise up to call him blessed not only for the full Gospel he preached, but for the full Gospel which he lived.

For more than a year Dr. Kepler has been in declining health, but

no]

Methodist Episcopal Church

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even his own family suspected that the end was so near. He died November 25, 1909. Funeral services were held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Oberlin, the pastor, Rev. W. S. Chapman, having

Rev. T. W. Grose, of Elyria, read the memoirs, and Dr. Charles Grose, of Cleveland, made the address. There was a large attendance of brethren of the North Ohio Conference who acted as pall bearers. The remains were laid to rest in the Oberlin cemetery.

Thus has passed from us a great citizen, soldier, scholar and minister of Christ. We hope to meet him in the morning of the resurrection.

FIGURE 4.103 WILLIAM'S OBITUARIES

April 28, 1981

Dear Jack,

We have visited the Wayne County Courthouse in Wooster where we found the marriage licenses of:

William Kepler and Christina Ann Ober - Nov. 17, 1867

William Kepler and Sophia Jane Over - April 20, 1871

Benjamin D. Over and Elizabeth Sachman - Dec. 22, 1842

Also the following death certificates were in Wayne County:

Elizabeth Overs

Death - 1890, May 30 - Canaan Twp.

Age 74

Place of Birth - Pennsylvania

B. D. Overs

Death - 1879, Jan. 31 - Canaan Twp.

Age 58

Place of Birth - Pennsylvania

Occupation - Tinner

Cause of Death Lung Fever

We also visited the cemetery in Burbank where we found the graves of Benjamin D. and Elizabeth Over. There was no grave by the name of Ober.

The death certificate of Christina Ann Ober (?) Kepler is not in Ashland, Wayne, Medina or Summit County. I also have not found the birth record of Charles Ober or William Arthur (my father).

This information contradicts the spelling of my Grandmother's name in her obituary, also the year of her marriage to my Grandfather.

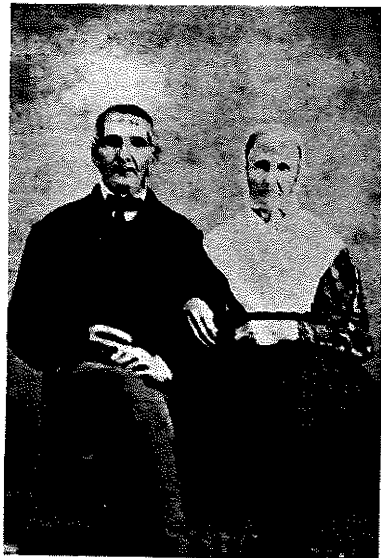
I am presently reading the book written by my Grandfather which was loaned to me by my brother Harold's widow Luella Kepler. "Fourth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry" written by Wm. Kepler, Ph.D., 1886. The book is a history of the three months and three years service, from April 16th, 1861 to June 22nd 1864 in the "War For The Union".

I'm still hoping to get more information from Jackie McDonald, Winifred's son's widow. Also we're trying to locate a picture of Wm..

Yours truly,

Russell Kepler

FIGURE 4.104

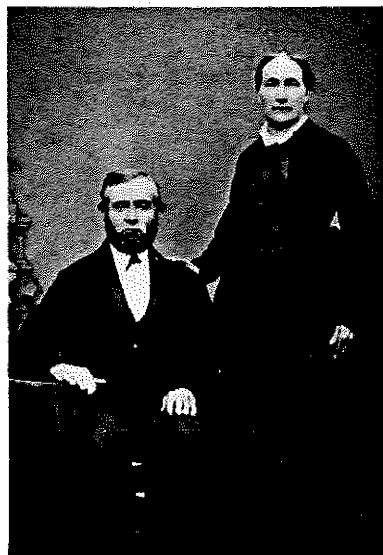


IF 1860: PROBABLY ADAM &
SUSANNAH BEER MARSH,
THE GRANDPARENTS

IF 1876: PROBABLY JACOB &
SUSANNAH MARSH KEPLER,
AUNT AND UNCLE



PROBABLY MARY (JOHN'S WIFE) OR
ELIZA (ANDREW J.'S WIFE) KEPLER,
GEORGE'S SISTER-IN-LAW, IN 1870-6



PROBABLY THE OBERS OR SWAISGOODS
IN 1865 OR SO



PROBABLY KEPLER COUSINS OR SIBLING
OF JENNIE OR CHRISTINA

FIGURE 4.105



Left: Laurie Cope, Russell Kepler, Deidra Kepler, LaVaughn Cope, Luella Hines Kepler, Betty Faus Kepler, Patricia Young



Left Front: Wallace Snyder (Houston's son), Houston Snyder, Clista Snyder, Jennie Kepler, William Kepler with son Arthur and dau. Winifred, Mary W. Kepler
Left Back: Amandus Asdale, Solomon Snyder, Ella Snyder, Susannah Kepler Snyder (with Grace I. Kepler behind her), John George Snyder

FIGURE 4.106

Oberlin Cemetery

William Kepler	Nov. 29, 1909 Pulmonary Adeno	67 yrs
Grace Idella Kepler	Mar. 17, 1910 Uremic Poisoning	30 yrs
Sophia Jennie Kepler	Mar. 26, 1917	67 yrs
Mary W. Kepler	Sept. 24, 1940	
Winifred Kepler McDonald	Oct. 8, 1963	

Coyle: Ohio Authors and Their Books
 World Publishing Co., 1962

Who Was Who in America
 I 1897-1942

Ohio
 Volunteer
 Infantry

KEPLER, WILLIAM M. (Dec. 17, 1841-Nov. 24, 1909), educator, was born in Cuyahoga County. He served as a private in the 4th O.V.I. from June, 1861, to June, 1864. After the Civil War he lived in Berea; he was secretary of the Northern Ohio Conference of the Methodist Church and also taught at Baldwin University. His death occurred in Oberlin.

History of the Three Months' and Three Years' Service . . . of the Fourth Regiment . . . , Cleveland, 1886.

KEPLER, Charles Ober, surgeon; b. Burbank, O., Aug. 20, 1868; s. William and Anna (Ober) K.; A.B., Baldwin U., Berea, O., 1887, A.M., 1890; M.D., Harvard, 1890; grad. St. Elizabeth's Hosp., Boston, 1900; U. of Vienna, 1908; m. Effie Alene Sweet, June 27, 1900; children—Aura Elizabeth, Helen, Edith Katharine. Practiced at Boston, Jan. 1, 1900—; specialist in gynecology and abdominal surgery; examining surgeon Boston Consolidated Gas Co. Comm. capt., Med. O.R.C., 1917, and in active service, Camp Devens, Mass. Home: Brookline, Mass. Died Nov. 1, 1934.

FIGURE 4.107

back to his boyhood-- and beyond. He has the rifle that William used in the Civil War and another relative has the Confederate flag William captured, as well as a copy of the book William wrote about the war (and, unknown to us at the time, the entire trunk of Williams last belongings). Thanks to him, we can include photos and information that we didn't have in the first edition. And now the Iowa side of the family is again in touch with the Ohio side.

GEORGE

In about 1843 George and Catharine had another child, George, who died soon (we think, see Chapter 1) thereafter. He is buried in Manchester cemetery.

Chapter Five

THE DISPERSION

Stanhope June 25, 1894

Dear Rosa

We say it for an hour or for years; We say it smiling say it choked with tears,
We say it coldly, say it with a kiss, and yet we have no other word than this--
Good-bye.

We have no dearer word for our heart's friend; For him who journeys to the
world's far end.

And scars our soul with going; thus we say, As unto him who steps but o'er the
way--Good-bye.

Alike to those we love and those we hate--We say no more in parting, at life's
gate.

To him who passes out beyond Earth's sight, We cry as to the wanderer for a
night--Good-bye.

Your old friend, Mrs. G. F. Kepler
Don't forget the summer of '94.

It is late Sunday night following the long Thanksgiving weekend, December 1, 1985. My wife, Carol, is getting the kids ready for bed and prepared for school tomorrow while I compose the corrections and additions to the first edition of this book on the computer downstairs. I wonder if I can finish this and have it available for Christmas, as Bess Walterick suggested. (Unfortunately, her suggestion was for Christmas 1983-- I'm a bit behind in my work.)

With the addition of names that so many thoughtful people have sent me, John's family tree of descendants now spills over my desk and onto the living room floor. The Directory following this chapter lists the addresses of some of these relatives (and a few of Andrew's descendants also); quite a few of the addresses have changed, or been corrected, from the first edition. Sadly, many of those listed in the first edition have been dropped because the relatives have died since its publication. But others have been added as new families have evolved and new children have been added to the charts. Clearly, a directory such as this becomes obsolete quickly, especially in our mobile society.

Figure 5.1, compiled from the directories of both the first and second editions, illustrates the dispersion of John's descendants across the U.S., with natural densities showing up where early ancestors settled, particularly Ohio and Iowa. It can only give a feel for the true demographic densities of those listed in the charts in this book but it is impressive nevertheless.

It has been a hundred years since little Rosa went about getting autographs for her book. A hundred and forty years since George's sleepless nights fighting typhoid fever. A hundred and seventy years since Andrew's wagon wound its way into Ohio carrying his brother John's family. And now it is many, many lives later. Many little graves in backyards, and also many happy days of sunshine have come and gone, and come and gone again. Joys, sorrows, rages, and passions, have all come and gone. and before long, we too who have come will be gone. And what shall survive of our lives? Will anyone remember the day we put red flannel around the necks of our turkeys? Or the time we asked for our "tollar?" Is it our turn now to plead "O Rosa, forget us not!"

Are there old stories that will be lost forever when you're gone? Are there photos that only you know the occasion of and whose faces those are? Share them with us-- we are all interested. As new information, addresses, and photos come in, I plan to incorporate them in continually updated printings of this second edition. And those who want the new information can simply request just the updated pages. Please share with us. Thank you.

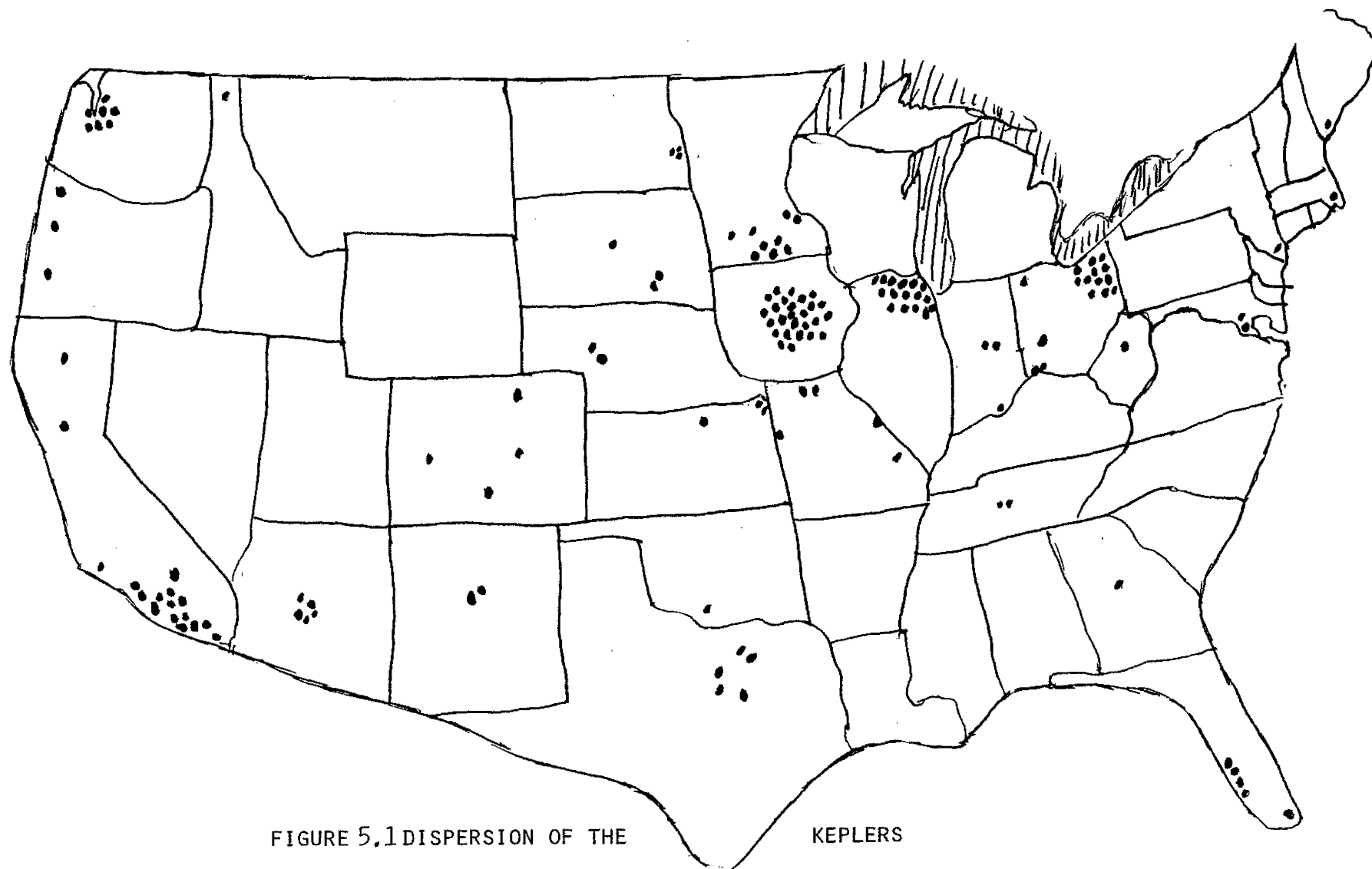


FIGURE 5.1 DISPERSION OF THE

KEPLERS

